"Congress shall make no law..."

THE VALLEY PATRIOT

2004 A NEW ENGLAND PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER 2024

20 YEARS OF NEWS & VIEWS!

APRIL, 2024
VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4
Edition #246

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
ZanniPesceLaw.com

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
Methuen & North Andover

JOCELYN'S BY SEVMAR
319 Merrimack St, Methuen
(978) 258-0190

Abuse of Power

Corrupt Haverhill officials continue to use government bodies to retaliate against a political opponent, doing so out in the open knowing they will never pay a price for their lawless behavior.

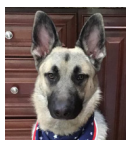
Haverhill School Committeeman Paul Magliochetti

INDEX

Rep. Reyes
PAGE 7

Francisco Paulino
State Rep.
PAGES 8,15

Auditor DiZoglio
In Your Corner
PAGE 6



Kane
PAGE 13

Bill Cushing
TV TALK
PAGE 27

Vets.....1,22
Editorial.....2
Methuen.....2,4,6,7,18
Dracut.....2,8,16
Haverhill.....4,6,18
Lawrence.....4,6,7,11,13,17
State.....4,6,7,18,21
Salisbury.....5,8
National.....5,13,18
North Andover.....6,15
Amesbury/Newburyport.....6,7
Pets.....13
Food/NH.....15,16
New Hampshire.....16
NOTEBOOK.....20
Religion.....23,27
Real Estate.....24

VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

Jeffrey Hollett Serving Vets; Meeting 5 Basic Needs!

John Cuddy
VETERAN COLUMNIST

The Valley Patriot this March met with Haverhill's Veteran Services Director, US Army and Massachusetts National Guard Veteran Jeffrey Hollett and discussed the five basic needs of our Nation's Veterans. Most Veterans consider those needs to be housing, health care, access to education, employment, and most importantly, support and fellowship from family, friends, and fellow Veterans. Since retiring from the Massachusetts National Guard, Jeffrey Hollett has served in Veterans services, working in the City of Lynn, serving Veterans in the Town of Dracut, and now he serves our Veterans residing in the City of Haverhill. 2,890 Haverhill residents declared Veteran's status when they filled the most recent US Census. Talking with Jeffrey Hollettt, he feels that number is low, and estimates the number of Veterans in Haverhill, Massachusetts to be around 4,000. The first item Jeff Hollett discussed with the Valley Patriot was housing.

-Housing: According to Jeff, Haverhill, and the Merrimack Valley have several dynamic Housing referral agencies that we work with dependent upon the Veteran or their family's needs. Many housing resources are available through the Haverhill Housing Authority, the Haverhill Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, Community Action Incorporated, Community Team Incorporated, Clear Path New England, Maloney Properties, the Newburyport Housing Authority, and the relatively new, non-profit Massachusetts Housing Navigator. One of the rising challenges is that of a growing number of Homeless Veterans are migrating to our city. Veterans contacting Jeff's office in need of housing, are from across the state, out of state, and in many cases originally from Haverhill. Housing is a concern affecting all of us and is a focus point for everyone in the human services industry along with rising mental health issues. Jeffrey Hollett stated it this way, "It is important to remember though that these two issues (housing and mental health) are not always linked together."

Any Massachusetts Veterans, especially those with dependent children, who find themselves at risk of becoming homeless, should reach out to their community's Veterans Services department as soon as the problem arises.

-Health Care: Jeffrey Hollett and I discussed the rising number of physical and mental health issues among our Veterans. We discussed a myriad of resources available to address the physical and mental health of their needs. Jeffrey lauded the work of the Disabled American Veterans Queen

HERO: PAGE 26

Four Star LIGHTING & ELECTRIC INC.
Installing / Repairing / Replacing:
Lighting • Circuits & Wiring • Service Upgrade • Generators
Residential Smoke Detectors
24-HOUR SCHEDULING
Now Hiring Electricians
Fully Licensed & Insured
Search Light Rentals
FourStarLighting.net • 978-851-4900

Salisbury Officials Must Fire Lisa Parsons

Last month, The Valley Patriot published an exclusive report showing Salisbury Planning Director Lisa Pearson falsely accused Salisbury resident Ron Tony Giordano of being a registered sex offender to keep him off the town's planning board. She did this simply because he threatened her stranglehold on power over local developers and private property rights.

Lisa Pearson not only slandered Giordano, but she recruited others to validate that slander, and then threatened to personally sue the Town Manager and bobble-head Board of Selectmen members if Giordano was appointed anyway, meaning she would attach their property, and make their lives a living hell for daring not to comply with her demands.

Since our report was published on March 5th, nobody in the Town of Salsbury has done a damn thing to hold Pearson accountable for her disgraceful and highly illegal behavior. Behavior which has exposed the town's taxpayers to a multi-million-dollar lawsuit.

A lawsuit that Giordano is sure to win!

That means these cowards are perfectly ok with the kind of extortion tactics Pearson employed to stop a citizen of Salisbury from serving on a volunteer public board for the town.

Whatever you may think of Ron Tony Giordano, or what kind of indiscretions might be in his background, it is never acceptable to falsely accuse someone of a sexual crime in today's climate, especially when it is provably untrue.

Yet, not only did the Town of Salisbury's elected and appointed officials do nothing about this disgusting behavior by a city employee, the Newburyport Daily News, (owned by the Eagle~Tribune) actually took Pearson's side by staying silent on the issue and refusing to investigate, report on, or condemn the sexualize bullying of a town resident by someone with power in local government.

That sends a very dangerous message to the tyrants and bullies who work in government at every level.

It also creates a chilling effect on free speech, discouraging average citizens with no real power from participating in local government, for fear that some powerful political hack will destroy their life with the full support of elected officials, and the local daily newspaper.

The Valley Patriot editorial board is rarely unanimous when it comes to the stands we take on this editorial page but, it was 100% this month when it was proposed that we demand the firing of Salisbury Planning Director Lisa Pearson.

If she is not fired, every member of the Board of Selectmen should be thrown out of office when they come up for re-election. ◊

Some More Equal than Others

Ted Xenakis
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

These words should ring loudly in the hearts and minds of all Americans, although, given the declining trajectory of America's public education system, that assumption is no longer a given. These words, of course, are from our Declaration of Independence, that document we celebrate with our modern-day rockets red glaring.

Sadly, some have called our celebration of independence a white supremacists' holiday, and the recent creation of the federal holiday known as Juneteenth is a reminder that many in our woke society still bear the pains and chains of white guilt.

That is not to suggest that those pains and chains are in any way commensurate with the real pains and chains of African Americans during the age of slavery and the many decades after its abolition.

In many critical aspects, the ideal of equality for all engendered in our founding documents was anything but. Rather, when America was born, equality was the exclusive province of white males who were landowners. Nevertheless, it was a revolutionary concept put into practice as western society emerged from a feudal structure dominated by kings and lords to a more egalitarian and enlightened framework championed by the likes of Thomas Paine and others.

From the birth of America until today, there has been an inexorable movement to bring the ideal of equality to all Americans. This movement was always sparked by the civil protest of those groups who were left on the outside looking in upon America's promise of equality. The Suffragettes, the Civil Rights Movement, Same Sex Marriage, and other causes have expanded the circle of Americans entitled to the benefits of equal protection under the law.

It seems that finally America has begun the true fulfillment of the proclaimed self-evident truth that all people are created equal. Sadly, having attained this lofty goal, at least in its legal framework, progressives in today's America want to cut off the legs of this hard-fought legal pedestal.

While bubbling beneath the surface for a decade or more, this attack on American equality rose

to the surface on Joe Biden's first day in office when he issued his "Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government."

The order exclaims that there are "entrenched disparities in our laws and public policies, and in our public and private institutions…. And that America is rife with "systemic racism."

Exactly what is systemic racism? And what system is this executive order talking about? I suggest that the system is the legal system in America. The same legal system that got its start in the English Common Law and then our Constitution.

Despite initial barriers to achieving true equality at the founding of America, our legal system has marched toward establishing a "system" that guarantees everyone equal treatment. The prohibition for governments and private groups to discriminate against a plethora of protected classes is as much a bedrock of our system as the 14th Amendment itself.

There was a time when racial segregation in schools and public places was legal, a time when homosexuality and interracial marriage were illegal, a time not too long ago when same sex marriage was illegal. These legal obstructions to equality have been stricken down in our march toward a system that is anything but racist or otherwise discriminatory.

With the advent of "equity" as the new basis for government action, as well as private entities who benefit in any way from government funding, America has undone all of the good of the past two hundred plus years since its founding.

Equity means the automatic disqualification of people based simply because of their gender or race. A prime example was Joe Biden's nomination for a Supreme Court Justice. He stated unequivocally that his selection would be a woman of color.

This pronouncement meant that any qualified man and any qualified white woman was immediately disqualified because of the gender or race. Is that what we want to embrace in America? Is that equal treatment under the law as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment?

Do we really want to resurrect the racial, gender and other identity barriers that plagued America for so long?

I for one say no!

The link to my blog is:
theodorexenakis.substack.com/ ◊

The Valley Patriot is published monthly before the tenth of each month by Valley Patriot, Inc., 75 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845. All contents Copyright (c) 2024, Valley Patriot, Inc. All rights reserved. Subscriptions are $60 per year and sent via U.S. Mail.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Valley Patriot, Inc., PO Box 453, North Andover, MA 01845.

Letters to the editor, columns and op/eds can be submitted to **valleypatriot@aol**.com. The Valley Patriot is not responsible for the opinions expressed in submitted letters or columns. It is the policy of The Valley Patriot not to edit or exclude submitted material based on content.

PHONE: *(978) 771-4091*
www.valleypatriot.com

News tips: Send anonymous news-tips to valleypatriot@aol.com. We respect the anonymity of our sources if requested.

President/Publisher: Tom Duggan, Jr.
SALES: (978) 771-4091

Corrections: Please contact the editors at ***valleypatriot@aol.com***

The Valley Patriot can be found in more than 800 locations in 22 communities in Massachusetts and NH.

The Valley Patriot is not responsible for, nor do we necessarily share the opinions of columnists and contributors that are published in the paper. Columns, by definition, are opinion pieces.

The Valley Patriot is printed by Graphic Development in West Hanover, MA

Local daily news updates online at valleypatriot.com or facebook.com/valleypatriot

Enterprise Bank, AAA, Lions Clubs Pitch in $5,800 for TMF

The Movement Family, a group of volunteers who feed the homeless in Lawrence, attended the Valley Patriot BASH last month to support the newspaper's charitable endeavors. Instead, they walked away with more than $5,800 in donations after being surprised by Jessica Phillips of Enterprise Bank and her team (with a check for $2,500), Darlene Ford of AAA of the Merrimack Valley (who donated $2,500) and the Lions Club who donated $800 for food purchased to feed the homeless. ◊

HOMELAND HEROES FOUNDATION

The Homeland Heroes Foundation is a non profit military charity that has been serving veterans and their families in their time of need for nearly twelve years. They have two donation centers filled with furniture and household items that they donate to veterans everyday. They also donate food and gas cards, pay for emergency hotels for homeless veterans in transition, holiday food & Christmas toy drives as well as assistance with past due utility bills and so much more!

The foundation is proud to say that 91% of all revenue is donated back to the veteran community. With the support of local businesses, individual donors and their fundraising efforts they donated over $125,000.00 in 2023 and assisted more than 1000 veterans and their family members and they are on track to *do that or better in 2024*. Would you like to be a part of something as wonderful as this? If so, check out their website and or give them a call to find out how *you can help.*

Homeland Heroes works hard every day to raise the funds they need to do this important work, but they can't do it without YOU, their community.
Please consider helping out by making a donation or attending one of their events.

Their event schedule for 2024 is as follows:
April 27, 2024 - Great Gatsby Gala at Castleton Event Center Windham NH
June 22, 2024 - Ryan's Ride Motorcycle Ride at Derry Salem Elks Salem NH
August 5, 2024 - Golf Tournament at Windham Country Club Windham NH

All donations are greatly appreciated and are a 100% tax deductible donation.

Homeland Heroes corporate office is located at 10 Delaware Dr. Suite 1 Salem NH 03079 / Office # 603-458-1275

For more info or to get involved please email us at Info@homelandheroesfoundation.org

Homelandheroesfoundation.org

MA Senate's Achievements in March

Pavel Payano
STATE SENATOR, 1ST ESSEX DISTRICT

Amidst a flurry of legislative activity, myself and my colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate have been hard at work this month, addressing a myriad of pressing issues impacting residents across the Commonwealth. From passing significant laws to gearing up for this year's budget discussions, engaging with constituent cases, to attending various events throughout Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen, I have been actively fulfilling my commitment to serving the needs of the First Essex District. With a focus on public safety, consumer protections, and access to quality education and care, the Senate's recent bill passing underscores its dedication to addressing key challenges and advancing the well-being of all Massachusetts residents. We also passed legislations that permanently codifies outdoor dining flexibility made popular during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Below I will go into more details about four of the major legislations that we passed.

Expanding Early Education and Care

March 14th saw the passage of the EARLY ED Act, an ambitious initiative aimed at improving access to high-quality early education and care. By making the Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grant program permanent and expanding subsidy eligibility, the bill seeks to ensure affordability and readiness for youth while driving economic development.

The legislation also prioritizes educator compensation, establishes innovative public-private partnerships, and introduces several measures to enhance program sustainability and accessibility. With the unanimous support of the Senate, these bills reflect a commitment to addressing pressing issues facing Massachusetts residents. As the legislative process moves forward, the Senate remains dedicated to promoting public safety, consumer protections, and access to quality education and care for all.

Preventing Abuse and Exploitation Online

On March 21st, the Senate unanimously approved An Act to Prevent Abuse and Exploitation, a bipartisan effort to combat the dissemination of sexually explicit images or videos without an individual's consent. Championed by Senator John F. Keenan (D-Quincy), the bill, designated as S.2073, not only criminalizes the sharing of indecent visuals but also establishes a comprehensive educational diversion program targeting adolescents.

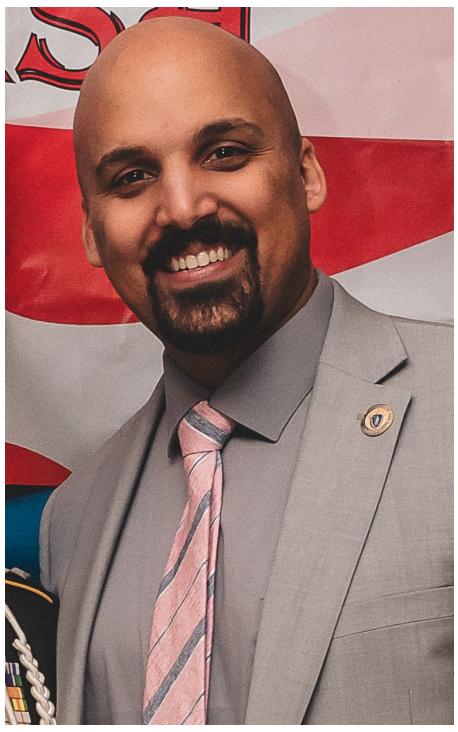
Under the legislation, the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) will develop and implement educational programs addressing the consequences of sexting and online indecency. Furthermore, the bill defines coercive control and provides avenues for victims to seek legal protection against such behaviors.

Enhancing Firefighter Safety

In the wake of heartbreaking tragedies, such as the devastating nine-alarm fire that shook the Back Bay a decade ago, claiming the lives of two Boston firefighters, the Senate took decisive action on March 28th by passing S.1485. This legislation mandates the establishment of a public database cataloging violations linked to hot work processes. With a focus on welding, plasma cutting, and other spark-producing construction activities, the bill stands as a crucial step towards enhancing transparency and safety for workers in these fields.

Protecting Consumer Rights

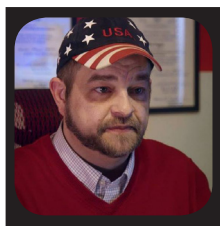
On March 28th, the Massachusetts Senate unanimously approved the Debt Collection Fairness Act, S.2713, signaling a resolute commitment to shielding consumers from the perils of predatory debt collection practices. This landmark legislation aims to overhaul debt collection procedures, offering crucial safeguards to individuals facing financial litigation. Notably, the bill slashes interest rates on consumer debt judgments from 12% to 3%, a move set to provide substantial relief to communities of color burdened by the weight of old debts acquired by collection agencies at a fraction of their original value. Moreover, the Act



establishes protections against wage garnishment, ensuring that at least $975 per week remains shielded from seizure due to debt obligations.

In a significant stride towards financial justice, the legislation clarifies that no individual can be incarcerated for failure to repay consumer debts, alleviating the anxieties of those grappling with financial hardships. Additionally, the bill streamlines the debt collection process by shortening the timeframe for legal action from six years to five years, fostering fairness and efficiency in debt-related legal proceedings. With the passage of the Debt Collection Fairness Act, the Massachusetts Senate underscores its unwavering dedication to safeguarding consumer rights and promoting equitable financial practices across the Commonwealth. ◊

Corrupt Haverhill Officials Continue Abuse of Power



Paying Attention!

with Tom Duggan

Haverhill School Committeeman Paul Magliochetti just finished an open meeting law training a few months ago, and then willingly violated the open meeting law with an illegal vote of the school committee to throw Scott Wood off the Whittier Tech. Committee.

It's hard to imagine how a country such as ours can survive as a constitutional republic much longer when local officials in every community are free to use the agencies of government to enact revenge against their political opposition.

Yet here we are.

While the actions of corrupt Haverhill officials like Mayor Melinda Barrett and School Committeeman Paul Magliochetti are only a local issue, the fact that they so willingly commit these acts of corruption out in the open with the blessing of (actually the assistance of) WHAV media shows that the legitimacy of our "government of the people" at every level is no more.

For more than 200 years we could always rely on agencies of the media, local, state, and federal government to hold each other accountable when one goes astray and abuses their power.

That concept is no more.

Case and Point: whatever you think about former Haverhill School Committeeman Scott Wood, he is being punished for committing a carnal sin in today's political climate. He ran for office against an authoritarian who had the support of the corrupt political machine in Haverhill.

For that, Wood was wrongly accused of being a racist, complete with a bogus allegation that he might have... maybe... sent a text message 25 years ago, using the "N" word.

Mind you, this was orchestrated with no proof of an actual text message, no chain of custody showing it came from his phone, no IP address, no actual evidence that it was even real, or anything more than something typed up on a word document twenty minutes ago.

Yet, the Haverhill City Council used the power of their governmental body to hold an illegal, secret-meeting, engaged in illegal deliberations, and then abused their authority by interfering in the mayoral election to "condemn" Wood and boost the mayoral campaign of Melinda Barrett. Mind you, Barrett sat on that very city council at the time.

Wood is also a police officer in Haverhill, so in order to punish him further for campaigning against the "equity diversity, and inclusion" mob, he was illegally refused a shift work.

That's right, Chief Pistone didn't fire him legally, he just stopped giving Wood a shift, meaning Wood can't pay his mortgage.

Even after The Valley Patriot filed an open meeting law violation against Haverhill officials, - and the Attorney General spanked the Haverhill Council for breaking the law - the hacks in Haverhill government didn't stop. In fact, they went even further, spitting in the face of the voters and the taxpayers.

Last month, Mayor Barrett engaged in yet another open meeting law violation to punish Wood for daring to challenge her quest for power. Only this time, she had the help of hack School Committeeman Paul Magliochetti, who himself has a shady background that we will be talking about at a future date.

As Scott Wood sits on the Whittier Tech School Board and is appointed by the Haverhill School Committee, Magliochetti and Barrett enlisted the assistance of the other school committee members to change the rules, policies, and procedures of appointing members of the Whittier Tech committee, to throw Wood off that board, even though his term wasn't up yet.

To accomplish this, they discussed the issue in secret, conspired to change the policies ... violating their own procedures ... voted at an illegal meeting without putting the item on the agenda, and not notifying the public as required by law.

Then, they were so cocky and arrogant in their law breaking - knowing that the levers of power in state government would do nothing to hold them accountable - that they publicly posted Wood's job while he was still there, and sent him a letter notifying him he was terminated from the board.

So, The Valley Patriot filed yet another open meeting law complaint, which will result in yet another slap on the wrist for Barrett and her cronies, who will continue to abuse their power five minutes after everyone stops paying attention again!

Where was WHAV Radio in all this? Well, they were cheering Barrett on and providing cover for the corrupt political insiders, only mentioning the possibility of wrongdoing after The Valley Patriot took action weeks after the incident. Which means Barrett and the hack insiders like Magliochetti will do it again, and again, not just to Scott Wood, but anyone else who dares to challenge their obsession with power.

Any why not?

As long as they yell "equity, diversity, and inclusion" really, really loudly, corrupt government officials can get away with - literally - anything they want. ◊

A New Hope for Whittier

Ryan Hamilton
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

After the ballot question to build a new Whittier Technical High School was soundly defeated a few months ago, the school's future was uncertain. As somebody who has toured the campus multiple times, we need a new school or a total renovation. The current status quo at Whittier is not sustainable for the next generation of students looking for a technical education.

This past week, we received news from the Healy-Driscoll administration that a light might be at the end of the tunnel. The administration has partnered with Northern Essex Community College to explore a possible shared campus model for Whittier Tech and Northern Essex.

The administration, in their press release, summarized the partnership as "NECC and WT will explore ways to create a new, modern facility for Whittier Tech, allow for expanded access to postsecondary education across northeastern Massachusetts, and increase enrollment capacity at both institutions and make them more affordable. It will also open up new avenues for potential additional funding sources beyond cities and towns in the Merrimack Valley."

First off, I'd like to thank the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Lane Glenn, President of Northern Essex Community College, for exploring this outside-the-box opportunity as a way to solve the Whittier Tech problem. I think we can all agree that Whittier Tech plays a vital role in the economy and workforce development of the Merrimack Valley. In this day and age where we need to open up more opportunities for students to have the ability to pursue a technical education, Northern Essex Community College in the Healey-Driscoll administration has answered the call.

My official quote on the topic of Whittier and Northern Essex is below.

"Partnerships between our vocational schools and community colleges are crucial for connecting our young people with the training and education they need to thrive in the workforce. I am thrilled to see two Merrimack Valley institutions unite to address a tough situation with creativity and collaboration. Thank you to the Healey-Driscoll Administration for fostering a regional solution that centers our students, educators, and diverse community needs."

In the following months, Valley Patriot, I will detail the House Budget which should be released sometime during April. I will highlight the funding the House appropriates for the 15th Essex District. I will also introduce my new legislative aid to the readers of the Valley Patriot. I want to congratulate my current legislative aid, Emily Kibbe, on taking a position with the Massachusetts AFL-CIO.

Emily has done a fantastic job working with me to help everyone in the 15th Essex. I wish her the best as she moves on to her next exciting opportunity.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact my office with any ideas, concerns, or questions at ryan.hamilton@mahouse.gov or 617-722-2090. ◊

Sexual Assault, Harassment & Cover Ups

IN YOUR CORNER with AUDITOR DIZOGLIO

Happy Spring, Valley Patriot readers!

It shouldn't come as a surprise that I'm a big fan of spring – mostly because this time of year very much reminds me of my overarching goal as your State Auditor: that each day should bring a little bit more sunlight!

Let's also take a moment, coming out of March - which was Women's History Month - to celebrate the strength, resilience, and remarkable achievements and contributions of women!

Recognizing successes are important, but, so too is reflecting on the challenges – both past and present – of how much more work remains.

I reflect often on my office's duty to ensure every person has a fair shake, no matter our family background, bank balance, zip code, or - yes - their gender.

Here's a look at a few of the issues we're tackling to support women in their continued fight for equality:

* Despite all the progress we've seen, there are still significant and unfair gender disparities persisting in the workplace. That's why many of my office's audits are prioritizing a review of pay equity. A 2023 study from the Boston Women's Workforce Council showed a gender gap of approximately $24,000 in average base compensation between men and women.

That same study found that, on average, men's performance pay was 3x that of women.1 It would seem this disparity exists for no other reason than the difference in gender. I will continue to use my role to ensure we recognize agencies that have made significant advances in pay equity, while recommending changes for those state entities with more work to do. We encourage all business owners to consider this issue and take steps to ensure pay equity.

* Nondisclosure Agreements (NDAs) paid for with taxpayer dollars are an inappropriate use of public funds. All people - women included - deserve a workplace free of violence, abuse, harassment, and discrimination; and one where perpetrators of such acts are held accountable. My team's audits seek to review and report on state agencies' policies regarding the past and present use of taxpayer funded settlement agreements with nondisclosure clauses. It is unacceptable for our tax dollars to continue to cover up abuse in government.

* One area where we can all make a difference is in supporting women-owned businesses. Many of you may not be familiar with the Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), which we are currently auditing; their role is to ensure that diverse businesses (women, veteran, minority, service-disabled veteran, disability, and LGBT-owned) have equitable access to state contract opportunities and awards. Reporting from the SDO shows that only a small fraction of the billions awarded in state contracts is awarded to women. This evidences a glaring gap in opportunity and access to state contracts for women-owned businesses. Our current audit of the Supplier Diversity Office will help ensure that it's delivering on its mission as effectively as possible. Moreover, in our other state agency audits, we will examine whether agencies are supporting and contracting with vendors registered with the Supplier Diversity Office, to ensure that diverse Massachusetts business owners have an equitable piece of the pie.

* The YWCA reports that nearly 1 in 3 women have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lives.2 Moreover, they report that over 4,000 people in Massachusetts are sexually assaulted each year. These statistics are significant when reflecting on our recently completed audit of the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB), finding approximately 1/3 of incarcerated offenders were never assigned a sex offender level prior to their release. In fact, an offender was released on average 170 days before being assigned a level - with the longest delay taking over 700 days. We all expect SORB to do its job - to promote public safety by educating and informing the public to prevent further victimizations. SORB is charged with registering and classifying convicted sex offenders so that the public understands the risk in their community, and offenders' risk of re-offense and the danger they pose. SORB's lax oversight puts everyone at risk. I will continue to ensure that the state agencies responsible for our safety are held accountable.

Through each of our audits and investigations, my team works tirelessly to promote accountability, transparency, accessibility, and equity in government – ensuring that taxpayer dollars are being spent responsibly and effectively.

Please join with me in taking a moment to recommit ourselves to the ongoing work of advancing women's rights - for our mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, cousins, friends, and neighbors.

Thank you, friends, for staying informed and paying attention. Yours in service, Diana.

PS. Want to be part of our work or learn more about all that we're doing? Please contact my office via email at auditor@massauditor.gov or by phone at 617-727-2075. And if you're ever in the State House, I hope you'll stop by and visit our team in room 230! ◊

Who Do They Represent?

Kevin Dube
CHAIR, NORTH ANDOVER GOP COMMITTEE

The Democrats in our state appear to be waging a war on the citizens of the Commonwealth. Decades of failed policies from Democrat rule has led to massive out migration of residents from Massachusetts. Rather than concern themselves with citizens leaving the state, our Democratic "leadership" is working overtime to accommodate those illegally entering the country. Provided they don't end up in Martha's Vineyard, of course.

Currently our greatest issue is Massachusetts "Right to Shelter" law. This law requires that Massachusetts taxpayers provide housing, food, education, etc. to virtually anyone that comes to our state regardless of legal status. Major legislation is being discussed in closed doors meetings regarding how many more taxpayer dollars the state is going to spend on "the migrant crisis." The House passed a bill spending over a quarter of a billion dollars on housing President Biden's "new arrivals." Karen Spika's senate has gone even further with a $750 million dollar plan that gives the governor carte blanche to spend down government savings accounts without any legislative oversight to encourage more migrants, formerly known as illegal aliens, to come to our state at taxpayer expense.

Massachusetts Democrats have a long history of prioritizing the interests of "migrants" over US Citizens. Massachusetts has long been, at least de-facto, a sanctuary state. In 2022 Democrats granted driver's licenses to illegal aliens, over Governor Baker's veto. We now have in state college tuition rates for illegal aliens. Current legislation includes more benefits such as workforce training and English language education for President Biden's "New Arrivals." Never mind our long-standing tradition of not working with ICE to remove criminal aliens.

Existing measures have been sold to the electorate as humanitarian steps to accommodate the rights of current "undocumented" immigrants. Democratic leadership's solution to our current problems, from the Governor down, is that we need to give these "new arrivals" work permits. These actions serve as incentives to simply announce that Massachusetts is open to everyone, regardless of legal status. Why are we incentivizing "migrants" to come here at the expense of the taxpaying citizenry?

Truly, who do our elected "representatives" represent?

To make change we need candidates willing to step up. North Andover is currently "represented" in the house by 2 of the most radical members of the state legislature, Tram Nguyen, and Adrianne Ramos. In the Senate Barry Feingold has consistently come down on the wrong side of issues affecting our citizens. We are fortunate in that precincts 7 & 8 are properly represented by Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr, who has sponsored many amendments to the unconscionable legislation being promoted by the Democrats. However, to change our course we need people to run for office. To date no one is challenging Representatives Nguyen or Ramos or Senator Feingold. If you ever have considered running for office now is the time. We either put our Commonwealth back on the right track, or choose the path so many of our neighbors have done and flee this failing state. Please contact me if you are interested in running for office.

Kevin Dube is the Chairman of the North Andover Republican Town Committee. He can be reached at northandovergop@gmail.com.

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
NORTH ANDOVER
129 Turnpike St.
North Andover, MA 01845

Valley Patriot Honors Police, Veterans, Activists at 20th Anniversary BASH!

Last month, at The Valley Patriot's 20th Anniversary BASH, not only did the newspaper give out $58,000 in scholarship money to local students but several people were honored for their work in the community with recognitions and awards.

THE JOHN RATKA HERO VETERANS AWARD

Because honoring Veterans is so much a part of what we do at The Valley Patriot, each year we honor veterans who served our nation and then came home to help other veterans. With the passing of our good friend and hero veteran John Ratka in 2019 we decided to name this award (which he won in 2016) the John Ratka Hero Veteran Award.

This year we honored hero veteran Eric Ryan who is featured on Page 1 of this edition of the paper.

We also posthumously honored a hero Marine Lance Corporal Robert L. Moscillo.

THE SCOTT CLEGG PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

A few years ago we lost a great friend and lifelong supporter of The Valley Patriot, Scott Clegg. Scott was a man who went out of his way to donate his time, money, and resources to helping those less fortunate, as well as honoring veterans, and being active in the community. Therefore, we named our public Service award for Scott.

This year we honored Sharon Marie and Dr. Natalie Stahl (bottom photo holding placques) for their work with the homeless at The Movement Family's weekly dinners for the homeless.

THE OFFICER TOM DUGGAN HERO POLICE OFFICER AWARD

On March 16, 1990, Lawrence Police Officer Tom Duggan Sr. lost his life in the line of duty. Each year we honor his service and sacrifice with "The Valley Patriot, Officer Tom Duggan Sr., Law Enforcement Award."

The award is given to members of public safety (police or fire) and/or one civilian who honors the service and personal sacrifice police officers and firefighters make every day. Officer Duggan believed that those little extra things we do in life every day to help others make the biggest difference and makes the world around us a better place.

This year's winners were Methuen Police Sgt. Derek Licata (photo #2) for his work with various different non-profits in Methuen, none the least of which is Debbie's Treasure Chest.

Also receiving this award was retired Lowell Police Officer Jerry Flynn (photo #3) for his decades of work as a police officer, as well as his lifetime of dedication to honoring police officers killed in the line of duty and providing needed assistance to their families.

FRANK H. CANN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This past year we lost Frank Cann, a man who we all wish we could be as he spent his life helping other people. He donated thousands of dollars for scholarships to kids in Methuen and Lawrence, raised money for local civic organizations, and was the go-to guy in the community when someone needed help. Therefor we have named our Lifetime Achievement Award the Frank H. Cann Lifetime Achievement Award.

This year's first recipient was former Gr. Lawrence Tech School Committee Chairman Leo Lamontagne (photo #1) for his 38 years of service to the students at the Tech School, and decades of service to the communituy as a local businessman .

Also receiving this award was President of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Joe Bevilacqua (photo #4) for his decades of service to helping small businesses, especially during the Columbia Gas Explosions and the needless Government lockdowns during the Covid Hysteria in 2020 and 20201.

VALLEY PATRIOT 1ST AMENDMENT AWARD

We have only give out three of these in the last 20 years but this year we make it four, as we honor former State Representative Lenny Mirra for his work exposing election fraud in Rowley during a recount in last year's state rep. race. (See page 13)

Please take a moment to see page 20 for a list of sponsors and scholarship donors!

#1

#2

PHOTOS: ANGEL GARCIA

#3

PHOTO: ANGEL GARCIA

#4

PHOTO: ANGEL GARCIA

#5

PHOTO: RUCH RUSSELL

Women in Government and a Successful BASH

Estela Reyes
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

I want to start this month with recognizing Tom Duggan and the Valley Patriot's 20th Anniversary BASH.

This event raised a record amount – over $58,000 for scholarships for eight local students in the Merrimack Valley.

Tom is instrumental in the operations of the Valley Patriot and is a fighter for our community. What an incredible achievement on top of a night of eating, celebrating, and networking. My sincerest thank you to everyone involved in making the The Valley Patriot's 20th Anniversary BASH so successful. I also want to congratulate Eileen Suarez, student Commander of Lawrence High School's JrROTC, who received a Valley Patriot scholarship in the amount of $11,485 last week.

I would also like to take a moment of remembrance for Lawrence Police Sargent Charlie Saindon who passed away tragically last month.

Charlie was a valued member of the Lawrence Police Department and a beloved member of the community.

His sudden passing left a hole in many hearts. We will remember Charlie for his commitment to the health, safety, and operations of Lawrence, and through his loving wife Kelley and his children.

My deepest condolences to those affected by this massive loss.

The health and safety of this community is a top priority of mine as your elected representative. I was excited to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony at Lawrence General Hospital, revealing its new Charlie and Liz Daher Accelerated Care Unit at the Emergency Center. This new unit will allow LGH to care for more patients who require urgent services. I am excited about this development for LGH and for those who it will support.

Outside of community happenings, March is a special month because it serves as a time to celebrate women's history by acknowledging and reflecting upon the integral contributions of women to American history and within society today.

Each March, the National Women's History Alliance designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. This year will celebrate "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion."

This is a perfect introduction to highlighting the accomplishments of female leaders in Lawrence and Methuen who consistently embody the spirit of promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within our community.

Women have been fundamental to the success of Lawrence as a 20th century world leader in the production of cotton and woolen textiles.

During the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike, women played a huge role as proponents of social justice, advocating for higher wages for workers in Lawrence's mills.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank my fellow female legislators in the Massachusetts State House of Representatives and Senate for all that they do, uplifting women and advocating for minority populations in Massachusetts. Only 231 women have served in the Massachusetts legislature, compared to over 20,000 men. This figure highlights just how necessary it is to support female legislators, uplift those interested in serving in public office and present girls with the necessary education and support to believe that representing their community is an attainable goal.

Our governor, Maura Healey has set this precedent as the first woman and first openly LGBTQ person elected Governor in Massachusetts. Both Governor Healey and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll have been trailblazers, paving the way for future generations of women in politics and a more inclusive Massachusetts.

To conclude this month's entry, I want to wish everyone a happy Saint Patrick's Day, a joyous start to Ramadan, and a Happy Easter. As always, please reach out to me at estela.reyes@mahouse.gov with any thoughts, questions, and concerns.

You can contact Estela Reyes' office through her Legislative Aide, Laura Byman, Office of Representative Estela A. Reyes | 4th Essex District, State House, Room 33 | 24 Beacon St. Boston MA 02133. (617) 299-0191 email: laura.byman@mahouse.gov ◊

An Unexpected Legacy of Helping Our Community

Francisco Paulino
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

This month I wanted to take the space that Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan affords to me to write a column about my works and accomplishments in the community and dedicated it to him.

On March 22nd, I was honored to attend The Valley Patriot's 20th Anniversary BASH, where Tom and his enormous team honored police officers, veterans, community leaders, and homeless advocates with awards and recognitions.

Many people may not know the real Tom Duggan, so today I wish to honor a man whose sense of purpose has greatly evolved in a way that even he never could have anticipated.

Tom Duggan, initially, might not have realized the profound implications on our community when he initiated The Valley Patriot Bash twenty years ago. This is an event designed to raise scholarship funds for underprivileged youth in the Merrimack Valley and has come to showcase Tom's unexpected legacy of giving to others.

Known for his fearless journalism and not shying away from controversy, some only know Tom as the guy who writes award winning investigative exposes.

But, knowing him as I do, I can tell you he could never have imagined that his most significant story in life would be the impactful contribution of these scholarships to help the students and their families in need.

In less than two months, Tom Duggan's scholarship drive for this BASH raised more than $58,000 for seven local high school students to attend college in the fall.

Tom's narrative is continuously unfolding, each chapter bringing to life a new vision that has taken on its own momentum.

Tom, my apologies are withheld with affection as I refer to you as 'Tommy Boy,' for you are destined to be remembered not just as a journalist, but as a man who enabled countless individuals to pursue higher education.

I am not only proud to support this event but even more so, to stand by you, Tommy Boy and your Valley Patriot. Thank you! ◊

A Family Legacy of Giving at Daybreak

SALISBURY: PAGE 26

State Committee Retires Republican Relic Ron Kaufman

By Brian Genest
VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

So long, Ron Kaufman! After decades and decades and decades and another half decade, Massachusetts finally has a new Republican National Committeeman, thankfully. But let's not be insensitive, after all, Ron Kaufman was retired due to health reasons: The members of the State Committee got sick of him. And it wasn't a moment too soon.

Politico reported on the April 6 meeting of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee this way: "Ron Kaufman, a former treasurer for the Republican National Committee, was upset by Brad Wyatt, a longtime activist with Tea Party roots, in a narrow 37-35 vote taken at a Republican State Committee meeting on Saturday in the Boston suburb [Burlington]. In rejecting Kaufman's bid for another term, Massachusetts GOP activists ousted a veteran Republican power player and lobbyist who has long divided his time between his native Quincy and Washington, D.C. Kaufman advised Mitt Romney's 2012 presidential bid and made his name in politics working for George H.W. Bush."

In other words, Ron Kaufman has been keeping the seat warm at the Republican National Committee for the length of the Bible. Not only was he shown the door, Ron Kaufman was ousted from his post as a national committeeman while serving as the general chair of the upcoming Republican National Convention. He was also supposed to serve as chair of the 2028 convention. Whoopsie.

Anyway, if you wonder why Massachusetts Republicans are in a rut, look no further than Ron Kaufman. He's had his snout in Republican politics since the Stone Age, but the MassGOP has little to show for it when it comes to winning elections.

EYE ON DRACUT

PHOTO: TOM DUGGAN

Brad Wyatt, on the other hand, has been working hard to help Republicans in Massachusetts and across the country win local and state elections. He's an absolute genius when it comes to voter data and targeting. He's the energetic, brilliant, and long overdue change we've so desperately needed in the MassGOP and on the Republican National Committee.

Four years ago, in their previous matchup, Lord Kaufman defeated Wyatt, thanks to his establishment friends on the Republican State Committee who continued to re-elect the political relic. But with the exodus of those members, many who were supporters of former Gov. Charlie Baker, Ron Kaufman couldn't hang onto the throne any longer, thankfully.

Before that vote in 2020, I researched Ron Kaufman's tenure. That's not something we're supposed to discuss, apparently. Ron Kaufman had no response when I asked him questions related to his employment as a senior advisor for public policy and regulation at a large global law firm and some other things, based on my web searches:

How do you explain your appearance, comments, and participation in the discussion to derail Donald Trump's candidacy for president on Showtime's documentary, The Circus? (Episode: "Trump GOP Nomination Terrifies the Republican Establishment") https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkYbBStofDo

How do you respond to this op/ed piece in The Lowell Sun and the Fitchburg Sentinel and Enterprise claiming your record of failing to elect Republicans in our state is the worst of any National Committeeman in the history of our party since its founding? https://www.lowellsun.com/2020/07/22/its-time-for-the-ma-gop-to-dump-ron-kaufman/

Do you provide services to or lobby on behalf of any Chinese businesses, government agencies or other foreign entities? On whose behalf are these services provided? What is your compensation?

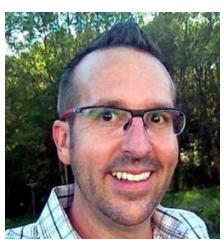
What was your involvement with Citgo, Hugo Chavez and the Venezuelan government, and how much money did you make as a result? https://www.capecodtimes.com/story/news/2010/08/30/mass-candidate-links-rival-s/51490658007/

What kind of responsibility do you take for Lawrence, Lowell, Framingham and other cities and towns across Massachusetts that are flooded with drugs? https://www.wsj.com/articles/venezuelas-hugo-chavez-worked-to-flood-u-s-with-cocaine-u-s-prosecutors-say-11568557780

While Kaufman clammed up, some of his besties on the state committee at that time had plenty to say. They didn't answer any of the questions, of course. Instead, they deflected and dismissed. https://www.lowellsun.com/2020/08/09/establishment-hacks-re-elect-republican-relic-ron-kaufman/

Nothing offends the sensibilities of the ruling class like questioning their ruler. The only thing some members of the Republican party's deliberative body can't stand more than deliberating is someone asking questions about one of their protected pals. And you can forget about getting any answers, except from Google.

Anyway, now, Ron Kaufman's off to the political ash heap, thankfully, just like the chewed-up ends of the old stale cigars smoked by the good ol' boys on K Street.



Brian Genest is a member of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee representing the First Middlesex district of Dracut, Lowell, Tyngsboro, Dunstable, and Pepperell. ◊

Methuen Village, City of Methuen Honor Dora Uliano's 100th Birthday

Methuen Village Assisted Living resident Dora Uliano recently became a centenarian as she, along with her friends and family, celebrated her 100th birthday. Everyone at Methuen Village gathered to honor the incredible warmth and kindness that Dora brings to the community.

At the celebration, Dora wore a beautiful flower crown reminiscent of the one she wore in high school when she was crowned May Queen and made the local newspaper. It was a great way for Dora to look back on her past accomplishments while enjoying the love and laughter of her loved ones.

Other notable attendees included the Methuen Police Department and the Methuen Town Hall, whose representatives granted Dora a special birthday citation! All who attended were inspired by Dora's grace and cheeriness as well as the remarkable impact she has made on the Methuen Village community.

Methuen Village Assisted Living & Compass Memory Support is home to a close-knit community of seniors who engage in fun and educational activities, helping them to remain independent for as long as possible. With research-based programs like Brain Healthy Cooking and EnrichedLIFE, residents at Methuen Village are met with a host of options regarding how to spend each day.

For more information, visit www.MethuenVillage.com.

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES

BANKRUPTCY * REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING * PERSONAL INJURY

Free consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishoners

COOL RIDE?
MEET HOT SAVINGS!

Drivers who switched to T.A. Sullivan save up to 20% on auto insurance!

At T.A. Sullivan Agency, we'll compare auto insurance rates and back-to-back coverage options from our trusted network of over 20 affiliate companies and customize a quote that fits your needs and your budget. Award-winning service. Lowest premiums available.

Ready to start saving?
Get a quote in minutes!
888-987-0505
Habla Español!
Scan to apply online!

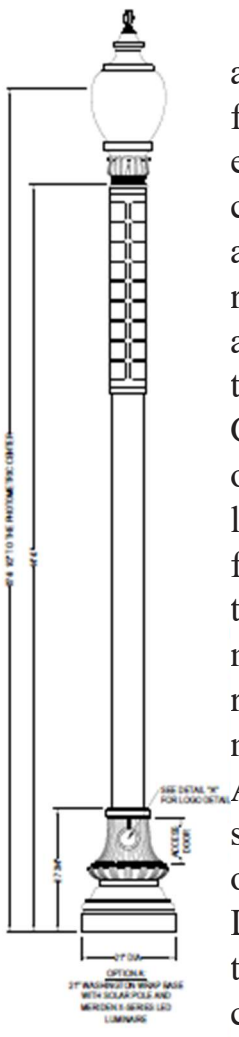
ARBELLA INSURANCE GROUP

TASULLIVANAGENCY.COM
COMPETITIVE COVERAGE THAT FITS YOUR NEEDS

City of Lawrence Mayor Brian Depena Announces...

Lawrence Parks Embrace Solar-Powered Illumination

In a forward-thinking move toward sustainability and enhanced public safety, Mayor Brian A. DePeña and DPW Director Jorge Jaime are spearheading a transformative project to illuminate Cronin and Howard Park using solar-powered lighting systems. This initiative marks a significant leap forward for the city, not only in terms of energy efficiency but also in creating safer and more inviting public spaces for residents to enjoy.



At the heart of this endeavor lies the utilization of solar energy, a clean and renewable resource abundant in our region. By harnessing the power of the sun, Lawrence is reducing its carbon footprint and paving the way for a greener future. Solar lighting systems offer a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to traditional lighting methods, aligning perfectly with the city's commitment to sustainability.The benefits of solar lighting extend beyond environmental considerations, as these systems also contribute to improved safety and security in our parks. With consistent and reliable illumination provided by solar lights, residents can feel safer when visiting these public spaces after dark. This enhanced visibility not only promotes outdoor recreation but also serves as a deterrent to crime, making our parks more welcoming and secure for all. The solar lighting systems selected for Cronin and Howard Park boast state-of-the-art technology, including smart solar control systems that optimize energy efficiency and ensure reliable performance. These innovative solutions represent the latest advancements in solar technology, offering a dependable and low-maintenance lighting solution for the city. Furthermore, the installation of solar-powered lighting systems requires minimal disruption to park amenities, thanks to their wireless and modular design. This streamlined installation process minimizes costs and downtime, allowing residents to enjoy the benefits of solar illumination sooner rather than later.Lawrence's decision to embrace solar-powered lighting mirrors a growing trend among municipalities nationwide, with neighboring towns like Topsfield, MA, also adopting similar initiatives. As communities strive to reduce their environmental impact and enhance quality of life, solar lighting stands out as a practical and effective solution for achieving these goals. In summary, the introduction of solar-powered lighting systems in Cronin and Howard Park represents a significant milestone for Lawrence, symbolizing the city's commitment to sustainability, safety, and innovation. By harnessing the power of the sun, Lawrence is not only brightening its parks but also illuminating a path toward a cleaner, safer, and more sustainable future for all residents.

SHAKING SEAFOOD

369 S Broadway, Salem, NH 03079 * 603-450-8888 * shakingseafoodnh.com * OPEN: Sun. - Thurs. Noon – 9:30PM *Fri. - Sat. Noon – 10:30PM

TOMO Hibachi & Sushi
tomosalem.com

Tomo is the best Japanese Restaurant in N.H. from seafood to dessert to Japanese food, everything looks really delicious. Our food quality, friendly service and cleanliness will exceed your expectations. Servers will continue bringing customers the freshest prepared food of their choice until they are full.

Address: 368 S. Broadway
Salem, NH 03079
Telephone: 603-893-8880

Mon-Thurs: 11am - 10pm
Fri-Sat: 11am - 11:30pm
Sunday: 12noon - 9:30pm

Real Estate Law & Estate Planning Are What We Do!!!

Lambert Randone, P.C.

844-7REAL LAW
(844-773-2552)

Paul D. Lambert, Esq.
Cell: 978-609-6420

Darlene M. Randone, Esq.
Cell: 978-621-1400

Visit us at WWW.LAMBERTRANDONE.COM

401 Andover St., Suite 11, No. Andover, MA 01845

Assisting people with their Estate Planning
& Real Estate Legal Needs for more than 30 Years

The Lowell Veterans' Center

KANE
VALLEY PATRIOT MASCOT/COLUMNIST

Providing professional, safe, and confidential personal and readjustment counseling to eligible veterans and their families in our community,

Director Elisabeth Parrott of the Lowell Vet Center emphasized that veterans coming through the door of the Lowell Vet Center have entered a judgement free zone. Kane could hear in Elisabeth's voice that she meant what she said, and he thought this is the key component, veterans seeking services could be themselves in this space. Elisabeth oversees a staff of seven clinicians. Unlike a community health center clinicians at the vet center are knowledgeable of military terminology and lifestyle. This is a community where our very important military community members may participate in individual, family, or group support.

Elisabeth explained to Kane that Services are free and records are kept confidential. Although the vet center is funded through the Department of Veteran Affairs records are kept completely separate. Neither the Department of Veteran Affairs nor the Department of Defense have access to these records. Kane knows that our military members have specific needs often not addressed in a typical community-based clinic. Sharing what was observed in a combat zone is received best by counselors and other veterans "that get it."

Kane learned in a workshop that people have normal reactions to observing events that are mentally disturbing and abnormal to see. Having a safe place to process this information and make sense of feelings is a much needed and deserved resource. Elisabeth explained to Kane that readjustment to civilian life is extremely challenging and normal. This made a lot of sense to Kane. Serving in a combat zone or knowing you are tasked with the security of our country, is very important work. Frankly, civilian life may feel a bit mundane after that in some ways and rewarding in others.

Kane asked who is eligible for services at the Vet Center in Lowell? Elisabeth explained that eligible members include:

Veterans that served in a hostile environment or combat zone including Reservists and members of the National Guard.

Military members that provided mortuary services or direct emergency medical care to treat the casualties of war while on active duty.

Members of unmanned aerial vehicle crew that provided direct support to those in a combat area.

Served active duty in response to a national disaster or civil disorder under orders of the President.

Current or former members of the Coastguard, who participated in drug interdiction.

Current members of the Reserve in need of addressing behavioral health or psychological trauma related to military service.

Members who received services from a Vet center before January 2, 2013

Members who experienced military sexual trauma

And members who currently use any covered VA educational assistance benefits.

Elisabeth made it clear if you are a veteran and are in need of services that do not meet this criteria, please still check in so the team may provide referrals to meet your needs off site. Eligible participants do not need to be enrolled in VA health or a disability to receive services. Kane felt very comfortable talking to Elisabeth. She has a friendly voice and is quite passionate about the important work she and her staff do daily.

In terms of family involvement and care, Elisabeth explained that couples and family counseling is available to support their veteran family member. A few examples of offerings include communication support and education and parenting topics. The clinic also

supports gold star families with grief and bereavement if their service member died while serving on active duty. Elisabeth reported that eligibility for bereavement services has expanded recently to include families of veterans who died by suicide. Kane knows how important family is in the reintegration process. He was happy to learn that family may be included in the support process.

Elisabeth was excited to report that besides the Lowell location on 10 George

KANE: PAGE 18

Why We Need The Valley Patriot Now More Than Ever

Lenny Mirra
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Republicans like to complain about media bias, and I would know, I'm one of them.

But I also figured out that at some point we needed to stop complaining and actually do something about it, which is why I make it a point to submit an article every month in the Valley Patriot. It is also why I try to encourage every small business owner I know to advertise in the paper to help keep The Valley Patriot in business.

If you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem!

And the timing is crucial, with newspapers across the country closing their doors because the business model just doesn't work like it used to.

This is a very real problem as we now have little to no reporting on local issues, which inevitably leads to politicians being more willing and able to engage in corrupt behaviors, especially at the state and local levels.

Add to this, the problem of every source of news becoming more partisan and tribalist, along with the habit of Americans seeking all their news and information from the same sources every time.

It's no wonder the entire country is becoming more divided and more partisan, to the point where many can't even speak to their neighbors or family members if they don't have the exact same opinions of political points of view on every issue.

Meanwhile, disinformation rules, allowing partisan and extremist politicians to also rule. They really go hand in hand.

This is why I take it as a great honor to have been given a 1st Amendment Award from The Valley Patriot at their 20th Anniversary Bash last month.

In 20 years, we have only given out three of these and tonight Lenny Mirra makes it four!" Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan said upon announcing my name.

This is one of the few newspapers, one of the few sources of news of any kind, that goes out of its way to present all sides to all citizens on all Issues.

The fact is, publisher Tom Duggan is a right-wing conservative, yet each edition of The Valley Patriot has an abundance of news and opinion pieces from Democrats, leftists, and even libertarians.

For this, I think Tom Duggan and the good people who produce the paper are the ones who deserve an award for not only having the guts to run a paper but doing it in a way that defies the rest of the industry in presenting balanced news reporting and seeking views they do not agree with so that their readers can decide for themselves what to believe.

This is happening at a time when former Republican National Committee Chair Ronna McDaniel just got fired from her new gig at NBC for basically having an R next to her name.

Too many of her co-workers couldn't stand the idea of having even a single Republican employed there, lest viewers be presented with "wrong" viewpoints.

This is hilarious coming from

the people who pushed the Russian collusion hoax, the burying of the Hunter Biden laptop story, and outright fiction on stories defaming people like Nicholas Sandman and Kyle Rittenhouse.

Meanwhile, Democrat party officials like Anthony Van Jones, Donna Brazile, and George Stephanopoulos are still on the air despite countless controversies. The "D" next to their names are apparently a Get Out of Jail Free card on all bad and even illegal behavior.

And so now we're left with just about everyone at NBC, as well as every other network, cable tv news station, newspaper, magazine, etc. being in the same party presenting only one point of view and only reporting news that makes one side look good.

If consumers of news always get their information from the same source every day, then it's no wonder so many people are so partisan, so divided, closed minded and so entrenched in their beliefs.

And it's also no wonder so many more people believe in so many conspiracy theories and falsehoods than ever before.

Everyone who reads The Valley Patriot knows Tom Duggan not only seeks out views from all sides and all groups, but that he relishes presenting them in the face of constant criticism from those who want him to join the choir and only present one side.

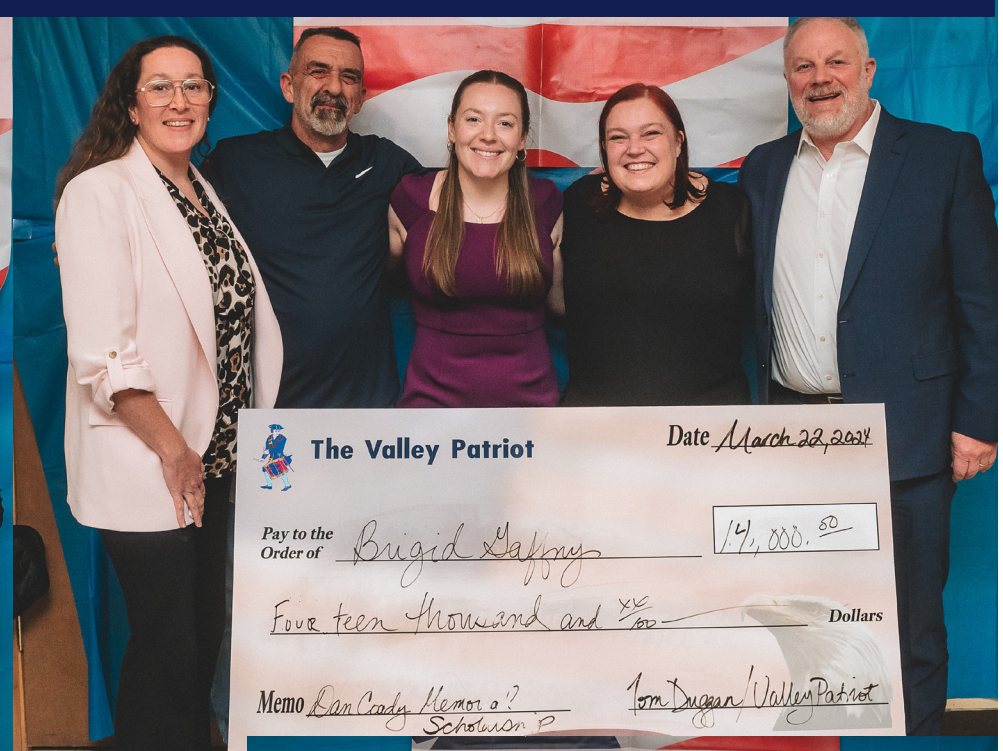
The rest of the news industry could learn a lot from The Valley Patriot. ◊

20th Anniversary BASH Breaks Scholarship Records

2024 Scholarship Drive Totals to Date!

The Valley Patriot 20th Anniversary BASH March 22nd

DAN COADY - N. Andover Brigid Gaffny	$14,300
L.H.S. JrROTC (Eugene Smith/John Ratka) Eileen Suarez	$11,475
DAN STRANGE - HAVERHILL Lizet Deferia	$6,501
METHUEN HIGH - STUDIO 21 Calysa Alba	$6,250
Gr. Law. Tech Arianna Valerio	$5,360
WHITTIER Kauren Urena	$5,245
PHIL GLENDYE Adeline Bellanti	$4,575
EDMUND LO SCHOLARSHIP Given in May	$4,400
TOTAL	**$58,106**



The Valley Patriot's 20th Anniversary BASH was held on March 22nd at the Firefighter's Relief In in Lawrence, raising more than $58,000 for 8 students going to college in the fall .This broke our all time record of $53,445 last year. The Dan Coady Memorial Scholarship this year was the highest individual scholarship amount ever given at any previous bash. The Eugene Smith - John Ratka Memorial Scholarship for a Lawrence high JrROtc student was the highest amount ever raised for LHS in one year at $11,475. The Dan Strange Memorial Scholarship for a Haverhill High School student far exceeded that schools BASH total by more than $2,000, and the Studio 21 Podcast Cafe - Methuen High Scholarship broke all records for that specific sholarship with $6,250. Please see list of donors on page 20.

Addressing Economic Challenges, Housing Needs in Our Community

By: Francisco Paulino

To the Valued Residents of Methuen and Lawrence,

Currently, our community, along with the broader national landscape, has encountered a series of economic challenges.

One of the most pressing issues has been the rise of credit card indebtedness and defaults, a trend that leads to a greater financial burden among many households. This situation has significantly influenced the forthcoming cut in interest rates, a move designed to offer some relief. However, this necessary adjustment comes with its own set of challenges, particularly in the retail sector where we anticipate significant job losses. These positions, often fundamental to many in our community, are not easily replaced, presenting a critical challenge for our workforce.

In response to these developments, I have been actively collaborating with fellow lawmakers to forge pathways that not only transition affected individuals into new roles but also ensure these opportunities lead to improved quality of life through better-paying jobs. Our focus has been on developing comprehensive training programs tailored to equip our workforce with the skills required in

PAULINO: PAGE 18

Heart of the Valley, How You Can Contribute to Local Charities

Katie Cook
VALLEY PATRIOT CHARITY COLUMNIST

"If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in the dark with a mosquito" Betty Reese joked.

You may think that you are only one person and that you don't have the power or the money to make a big difference in the world. You probably think you don't have the time or any expert knowledge, but the truth is you do! You have the power to change the lives of others in our community and by doing so you might find you are making a positive change in yourself along the way.

Helping local civic organizations or non-profits in the Merrimack Valley is a great way to make a positive impact in the community, especially if you are helping a cause you have a passion for.

So how can you pitch in, in a meaningful way that will make a difference?

The obvious way to help is to find a local organization or fundraising effort and make a financial donation. Or you can donate food and clothing items to a group helping the homeless or those struggling in our area. If everyone gives just a little, a lot will build quickly and change the lives of the individuals who need it in ways you will never really know.

Just last week I ran a scratch ticket basket raffle fundraiser for a local children's fund.

Tickets were only $5, and I was able to collect $1,000 in only 24 hours.

Asking your company to sponsor an event for your favorite charity is also a great way to get local corporations involved in giving back to their community and putting needed dollars back into our community in ways that help those who need it.

If you don't have extra cash to spare right now, that's ok. There are even other ways you can contribute that will make someone's life a little better.

Volunteering your time is always a great option.

You can volunteer with a local civic organization, help out at a charity event and attend fundraisers. If you have any special talents or skills that you are willing to share, like website design or accounting abilities, many organizations are looking for people just like you to help them service people who are less fortunate.

One of the easiest ways to contribute is by engaging with a local civic organization on social media, sharing their posts, and tagging a friend who might also be interested in their mission, especially when they are raising money for scholarships, the homeless, youth sports, or senior citizen activities. While on their social media pages, be sure to give them a positive review so others know they are a good place to donate to and share your personal experiences.

Spreading the word about a local organization also helps spread awareness about their mission and fundraising events, which can help non-profits grow and help more people. Making a personal introduction for a friend or a coworker to the organization is another amazing way to help them out.

With so many local non-profits out there, it can be hard to know which ones are trustworthy enough to contribute your time and resources to.

Charity Navigator is one tool I have used in the past. They rate non-profits on Impact & Measurement, Accountability & Finance, Leadership & Adaptability and Culture & Community.

I found it focuses on larger, regional, and nationwide charities so I was not finding out as much information about local charities.

Personally, when I donate, I want to know my time and resources are going directly into MY community, the Merrimack Valley. I want to help my neighbors and friends with their missions so that the people who live here can get some of the help they need to make their lives better. That makes the entire community a better place to be.

So, how do you learn more about local charities and find one that fits your passion and interests??

Read my newest column in the Valley Patriot every month called Heart of the Valley this summer!

Thanks to the Valley Patriot, I will be highlighting a civic organization or non-profit in the Merrimack Valley every month. Organizations and groups that that work in our community to improve the lives of our neighbors.

Since I don't know about every group here in the Valley, I want to invite you all to email me at HeartOfTheValley978@gmail.com with information about your organization, a summary about how you help the community and how much of the money donated goes directly to those in need as well as a good contact person to possibly be interviewed.

I am looking forward to learning about all the organizations and all the amazing work happening in the Merrimack Valley.◊

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY
www.zannipescelaw.com
Free Consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishioners

The End of an Error: Tick, Tock, Tick, Tock

Philippe Thibault
VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT CONTRIBUTOR

The Dracut municipal election is scheduled for May 4th. I hope the citizens remember to vote. Most often the days following the election I hear people remark, "don't we vote on Tuesday," "the elections are in November aren't they?" and "there was an election!"

Whether intentional or not, and I believe it to be apathy, most people will not know or not care about the upcoming election. A Republic is getting the government the populace deserves. Although, I do not find it difficult to be overly interested with Selectman like Alison Genest, Jennifer Kopcinski, or soon to be retired Joe DiRocco.

Joe DiRocco is finally keeping his word and not seeking re-election for a sixth term. He has made that claim for several of the past elections and unless he is running a clandestine write in campaign, May 4th will be his last day as Dracut Selectman.

To the dismay of some, including Brian Genest who is probably roasting me as "the professional loser" finally getting the message from the voters of Dracut, I decided to watch this election from the sidelines. Mr. Genest will most likely mention my name with the over under set at three. Nobody wanted to see another DiRocco Thibault battle, I, more than anyone else. I recall one Candidate's Debate night when Joe DiRocco questioned my ability to make a judgment on a housing project he had advocated.

Mention Louisburg Square to anyone in Town and watch them roll their eyes. DiRocco had insisted that "experts" had given an okay on the project and its viability to produce housing. "I don't think an architect is an expert when it comes to those (housing)."

The double take of the moderator was priceless. But that was typical DiRocco. If it was his responsibility, it was someone else's fault. I will wish him the same farewell he gave to Tami Dristiliaris at her last meeting as a Selectman.

"I'm glad to see you going!"

So, three gentlemen are now looking to fill small shoes with their big feet. A trial by fire for their first term: Dave Martin, Josh Taylor, and Don Plummer. I know the first two more than the latter.

All have had some involvement on various boards in town, and all with equal success. Each has a skillset that makes them qualified for the position. Both Dave and Josh are local contractors, in fact they have worked together until recently. Don is from the high-tech industry with a background in administration.

There was a fourth candidate who "pulled" nomination papers and quickly withdrew from the race. It is speculated that Brian Genest was not confident in the ability of the backed candidate to win, so he coerced a "political newcomer," tell me if you have seen this movie before, to enter the race. Apparently, this person was not the dupe they previously thought. They will jettison friend and ally to achieve their ends.

I have worked professionally with both Dave and Josh for many years in Dracut. I have been accused many times of a conflict of interest by the very Selectmen who are now supporting Dave, and hypocritically they see no conflict of interests in their candidate. I am not suggesting that there is a conflict of interest nor am I insinuating that any of the candidates would act unethically. I am illustrating the lengths the existing established political structure will go to maintain power. These are people who act without moral compass or boundary. Don Plummer remarked on a radio interview about this very topic. The problem with the Board of Selectmen votes always appearing to be a three to two vote is not the divide itself. It is more the vote made by the majority is often to the detriment of Dracut, so as not to allow a potential innovative idea from the minority to thrive.

The citizens of Dracut are at a convergence in time and event that will have far reaching ramifications on the future. There is the status quo or as to quote Selectmen Chair Alison Genest "keep the momentum going." I caution the physics of momentum most occurs when you are going downhill. Or there is change, not for change's sake but a reasoned choice to transform. When my sons came to voting age, I asked them to register without demanding they vote. I never thought it was my duty to demand voting from my children. I believe not voting is also a choice, although the worst choice to make, the greater of the evils.

I challenged my sons to educate themselves on the choices they would make, and I wanted their vote to be their choice.

I see compelling reasons to look at all three candidates; however there needs to be a final decision. My decision may rely more on communal perceptions rather than political aspirations for these elections. Of all the candidates, who would I like to have as a neighbor. Someone who may not necessarily fall into the friend category, but someone I know is there in the neighborhood involved with the community. I believe that gentleman is Josh Taylor. Josh makes himself available to many people in town who have no one to turn to. I find this admirable above all political traits. It is this quality in a person that should make us want to be better and do more for our fellow citizens and community.

Although not necessarily in the friend category, I see Josh Taylor as that "3:00 am. call". The person you can telephone at 3:00 am. when you need help and there is no question that they will respond to your plight. It is 2:58 am and Dracut needs to make a call. ◊

TOUGH LOVE INTERVENTION

PRIVATE K-9 NARCOTICS DETECTION

"Don't wait until it's too late"

Kevin Drouin
Owner/CEO

Tel: 978-337-0925
Email: kdrouin@msn.com
www.toughloveintervention.com

Like us on Facebook

We are so confident in this treatment, your first visit is

FREE

This treatment can help you achieve
Pain Loss • Fat Loss
Skin anti-aging and so much more

Our TRIFECTA PRO-300 Integrated Red/Near-Infrared light bed session (with whole body vibration and hydromassage)

Successfully treating thousands of auto-accident injuries over the last 40 years!

Dr. Sam Amari
Kenoza Chiropractic Offices
89-93 Kenoza Ave.
Haverhill, MA

Call Mon., Wed., & Thurs.
9am-12pm • 2pm-6pm
978-373-9330

Wine & Cheese

Lawrence Latin Lions Club

Marzo | 16 | 2:00 PM

Lawrence Public Library
51 Lawrence St, Lawrence, MA 01841

Por favor confirmar asistencia
978-728-2724

Stadium Chiropractic

NEW LOCATION! 2 DURSO AVE
BEHIND TACO BELL IN LAWRENCE

Dr. John Armano is pleased to announce the opening of Stadium Chiropractic PC located at 2 Durso Ave in Lawrence, adjacent to the Registry of Motor Vehicles behind Taco Bell. Dr. John Armano has been serving the Merrimack Valley for the past 31 years specializing in injury rehab sports medicine, as well as pain management for acute and chronic conditions. Dr. Cindy Armano has been serving Boston's North shore for the past 31 years also specializing in injury rehab, as well as family care and nutritional counseling. PHONE: (508) 350-7036. Se Habla Espanol.

Paul Lambert, Esq.
(978) 609-6420

Darlene M. Randone, Esq.
978-621-1400

Lambert Randone, P.C.

401 Andover Street
(Route 125) Suite 11
North Andover MA 01845

WWW.LAMBERTRANDONE.COM

The Revolving Door of Criminal Chaos

Kenneth Willette
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it—a stark warning during turbulent periods of our nation's journey. One of my friends, Bob Rapazzo, is a world traveler who has been pictured outside the Great Pyramid of Giza and walked the same steps of ancient Greek philosophers. He once worked for the famous Bishop's Restaurant in Lawrence. Recently, he showed me a 1974 photo of serial criminal Willie Horton being hauled away from the Lawrence Police HQ—with the restaurant clearly in the background.

Being only one year old at the time, I obviously had no discernible memory of the event, but it invoked later images of the 1988 Presidential Elections. Back then Massachusetts Miracle Mike Dukakis had secured the Democratic nomination, and at one point was ahead of VP George H.W. Bush in the polls. Suddenly, Horton entered the national scene like an uncontrollable wildfire. Horton was a direct beneficiary of Miracle Mike's benevolence toward hard-core, deadly criminals, many of whom subsequently abused the gaping holes in his open-door policies.

The unrepentant Horton was granted a weekend furlough whereby he escaped to Maryland, terrorized a couple, and raped the fiancée repeatedly at gunpoint. What is forever ingrained in my mind was the ice-cold response given by Miracle Mike when asked by CNN's Bernard Shaw what he would do if his wife, Kitty, was raped and murdered. His reply was the final death knell to his dreams for the White House.

Bush further capitalized on the weakness of the Dukakis campaign by airing one of the most effective ads in American political history, showcasing criminals going through a revolving door-- a powerful imagery that could easily resonate with voters this November. The widespread carnage of murderer Horton epitomizes the protection of criminals by 2024 Radicals. A hero cop in NY recently gunned down by a thug with a 21-arrest rap sheet is a déjà vu reminder of deadly policy failure.

To this day, Horton denies his crimes. The Leftist media continue to write hit pieces that portray race playing a prominent role in the Bush campaign (even though the ad clearly had actors from all racial backgrounds). Weak politicians from Oakland to Chicago and NYC enacted pro-criminal policies that repeat the same mistakes of their urban counterparts from decades ago.

From Governor Healey's questionable comment that "things will happen" in the aftermath of the rape of a 15-year-old girl, to the tone-deaf reaction of the Biden White House after Laken Riley's brutal murder, can we really assert that our communities are safer today than 4 years ago? Perceptions of reality are so bad that Biden instructed federal agencies not to use the term "illegal alien" because it may cause sensitivity issues. Unreal!

The Leftists are running for their political lives. Did you notice the election year, 180 degree-turn of New York Governor Hochul who is now stationing National Guard soldiers in NYC's subways. Listen, you could resurrect General George Patton and his army, position them in the subways, and they would not make any lasting impact if Radical Leftist District Attorneys and judges are releasing repeat offenders the same day and not imposing long-term sentences. This is nothing but smoke and mirrors because the Governor supports the New York for All Act, which strictly prohibits law enforcement from directing illegal alien criminals to ICE authorities—including MS-13 gangbangers.

What a pressure cooker for NYC's Mayor Adams when faced with hundreds of Asian Americans from Brooklyn protesting the placement of illegals at a cherished recreational center. So much for the theory that only extremist white male MAGAs could possibly protest the flood of illegal aliens. Maybe someone can wake up Biden and inform him that the Dominican Republic installed fences along the border with Haiti and their troops immediately expel illegal entries by Haitians.

You really think that the same Antifa, anti-cop mob and their Radical enablers who seek to defund the police, who denigrate the Thin Blue Line on social media and during public hearings, and who advocate open borders and prisons, are now the responsible adults to solve rampant crime across blue states. Give me the name of any Massachusetts liberal leader within the last 40 years who was tough on criminals.

Imagine if some ignorant Americans claimed that all members of our armed forces were forever tainted by the horrors of the My Lai Massacre. Most Americans would reject that mentality, as millions served honorably, hundreds of thousands died in service and their actions have liberated hundreds of millions across the planet.

Yet why are so many Radical leaders condoning online fools who equate every cop interaction with a potential George Floyd scenario. During Obama's last year in office, a gunman viciously assassinated five Dallas police officers in cold blood, while only a few days later three more cops were massacred in Baton Rouge. Where is the red-hot outrage on that senseless violence?

Picture the psychological toll on police who are routinely re-arresting the same perps time and time again, knowing that escalation, death, and permanent suffering may be coming from the next 911 call. Imagine the cowardly accusations of systemic racism-- even against law enforcement brothers and sisters of color-- from repeat offenders at traffic stops. That sense of poor morale and negative community support is certainly manifested in mass retirements and a staggering suicide rate among law enforcement.

Do we really want to go back to the lawless days of New York City during the 1970s and 1980s? The graffiti, the broken windows, the garbage in the streets, the blatant criminal activity, the flight of businesses and the record murder rate. Do we want to export that level of pervasive chaos to Boston or elsewhere in our Commonwealth? Can we ultimately stop the madness? Maybe a clean sweep this November will help, including a new majority in the United States Senate. Then maybe Miracle Mike and Clueless Joe can compare campaign notes. ◊

KANE FROM PAGE 13

Street in Lowell three satellite locations have been added in Danvers, Peabody, and Gloucester. "The Lowell Vet Center provides services to a large area of Middlesex County," Elisabeth said. Having satellite offices allows easier access to services for veterans not close to Lowell.

After talking with Elisabeth, Kane was excited to see where the Vet center was located, so he drove down to George Street and he found out there was excellent security. Kane was not supposed to be in the parking lot after hours so he was asked to leave but he did sneak back in the lot to take a picture. It was an exciting secret night mission. Kane was happy about the security and usually follows rules, just not today.

Kane would like to stay in touch with Elisabeth Parrott in the future. Her passion for her work is contagious. In fact, her office was preparing for Vietnam Veterans Day at the Billerica Town Hall on March 29th. Kane would like to bring Elisabeth some copies of the Valley Patriot for her clients next month. If you would like to make an appointment at the Lowell Vet Center, please call 978-453-1151. Sometimes Isabelle answers the phone and she is also very pleasant to talk with. Kane knows the first step is hard and wishes anyone making that choice a positive journey.

As always thank you to all who served and their families. We appreciate you.

Kane Peaslee, Woof
Columnist Valley Patriot ◊

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
380 Merrimack St, Methuen * (978) 975-0700

PAULINO FROM PAGE 15

today's evolving job market.

Concurrently, our district faces a pressing need to significantly increase our residential housing stock to accommodate growth and ensure affordability.

The challenge is clear: to build hundreds of thousands of new residential units to meet this demand. In addressing this,

I have been a tireless advocate for promoting apprenticeship opportunities, particularly for the youth of Methuen and Lawrence.

These initiatives are not just about constructing homes; they are about building futures, providing our younger generation with the skills and opportunities to participate in and contribute to our community's growth.

The apprenticeship programs such as carpentry, plumbing, electrical are designed to open doors for our youth, offering them a pathway to skilled, well-compensated work in industries that are critical to our community's development necessary for our housing expansion efforts.

These programs not only address the immediate need for skilled labor in our housing projects but also invest in the long-term economic health and resilience of our community by empowering our youth with valuable, marketable skills.

As we move forward, the constructive collaboration between addressing our immediate economic challenges and laying the foundation for sustainable community growth becomes increasingly clear.

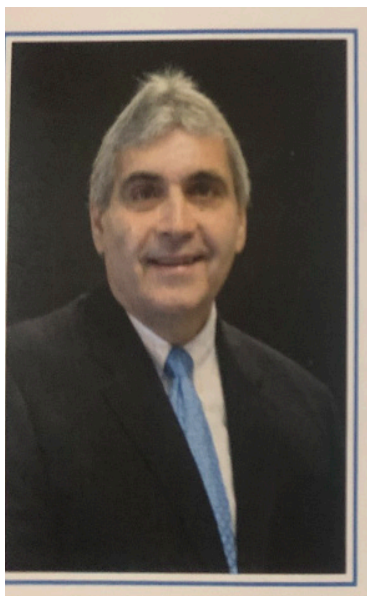
By supporting those affected by the shifts in the retail sector and simultaneously investing in the training and development of our youth, we are taking a comprehensive approach to building a resilient, thriving community.

My commitment to these initiatives is unwavering. The path ahead requires collaboration, dedication, and a shared vision for the future of Methuen and Lawrence.

Together, we can navigate these challenges, creating opportunities that not only address our immediate needs but also pave the way for a future marked by prosperity, inclusivity, and growth.

In service and with dedication,

Francisco E. Paulino State Representative, 16th Essex District, 256 Essex Street, Lawrence, MA 01841.
Tel: (978) 566-9363



Mike Sullivan
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Cell: 978-204-2758
Email: sull33@aol.com

BROWNS
SEABROOK
LOBSTER POUND
Route 286, Seabrook Beach, NH

Open Year Round
April 1 to Nov. 15 Every Day
Nov 16 to April 1, Fri, Sat, Sun, & Holidays

* Sandwiches
* Boiled Lobster
* Steamed Clams
* Fried & Baked Seafood
Eat your dinner in our scenic dining room or over the water on our open deck

Take Out Service
Call Ahead
(603) 474-3331

A New England Favorite Since 1950

Michael A. Colizzi: President
217 Merrimack St. Methuen, MA
01844 Phone: (978) 674-7035
Fax: (978) 674-7037
Colizzimemorials@comcast.net
www.colizzimemorials.com

COLIZZI MEMORIALS

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP

AFFORDABLE PRICES

MONUMENT SALES
CEMETERY LETTERING
BRONZE MARKERS
CIVIC MEMORIALS
MAUSOLEUMS
COLUMBARIUMS
MONUMENT CLEANING

Merrimack Valley's Premier Memorial Provider *

Independently owned and operated. Not affiliated with any other corporation

Attention Business Leaders

Is your workforce out of sync with your business goals?
Are you dealing with underperforming employees?

It's time to turn the tide and reclaim your team's engagement, productivity, and performance!

LeadHumano is here to elevate your journey to success with our unparalleled services in early career development, leadership training, and executive coaching.

It's time to unleash the full potential of your business. Book a free consultation with Luz Frazier today at www.LeadHumano.com

The LeadHumano Collective

J & W Shoe Repair and Leather Service

All Kinds of Shoe & Leather Repairs
* Pocketbook Refurbishing
* Custom Shoe Dying
* Orthopedic Shoes
* Suitcase & Luggage Repair
* All Kinds of Zipper Repair
* Name Brand Pocketbook Repair

We are offering pick up and drop off services

We are offering 25% more volume on all gift certificates

23 Years of services to our community!
Please support your LOCAL BUSINESSES!!

139 Main St., North Andover, (978) 685-2325 - OPEN: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5pm & Sat. 8:30 - 4pm

VALLEY PATRIOT BASH SPONSORS AND SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Each year we run our annual charity BASH where we raise money for scholarships and honor people in the community who do incredible work helping others. This is a very expensive endeavor as PayPal, VenMo, and CashAp take 3.5% of every donation that comes in. That means if someone donates $100 to a scholarship through electronic means, we only receive $96.50 but we actually give a full $100 to the student. With that expense as well the expenses for the hall, awards, etc. we ask for help from the business community and this year the response was tremendous.

SPONSORS: Thank you to the following Sponsors!

SPONSORED BY

AFC Urgent Care North Andover
Laborer's Union Local 175
The Artie "T" Demoulas Foundation
EIS Investigation and Gun Training
State Representative Estela Reyes
New England Police Benevolent Association
John Ratka Memorial Scholarship Foundation
Eugene Smith * Military Connections
Pleasant Valley Landscaping
Kevin Strange
Quintanna Supplies
Mirra Construction
Methuen Police Chief McNamara
State Rep. Ryan Hamilton
State Auditor Diana DiZoglio
Sheehan's Towing
Essex County D.A. Paul Tucker
Enterprise Bank
Dawn's Sign Tech.
Lawrence Cable Access
411 Cares
Rich Russel & Angel Garcia
AAA Merrimack Valley
Lawrence Lions Club
Callahan Heating Plumbing
Coady's Towing Service
Gr. Lawrence Family Health Center
Studio 21 Podcast Cafe
Two Guys Smoke Shop
State Rep. Francisco Paulino
State Senator Pavel Payano
Marcos Devers
Methuen Councilor Ron Marsan
Zanni Pesce Law Office
Marsan and Sons Construction

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

Congratulations to Dalia Diaz, owner of Rumbo Newspaper for being awarded the John E. Fenton Citizenship Award at the 54th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon.

Madison Tax Services
Annie Clegg
Bob Wescott
Leadhumano LLC
Franz Acres
Carrie Wieland
Comedian Johnny Joyce
David Lacroix
Atty. Paul Lambert
Hery's Jewelry & Awards
Lawrence Mayor Brian DePena
D.J. Rick Bellanti
Sweet Paws Dog Adoptions
Gino Barone * Trident
Bob Bradley, Ann McCulough
Lisa Savinelli Williams
Registrar of Deeds Paul Iannuccillo
Greg & Nick Morris
North Andover VFW
Sargent Improvement Club
TJ's Heavy Hauling LLC
Arlene Charest
Zoser Mohamed
Al Veilleux!!!
Santana Auto Repair
Mike Pacheco

Uncle Eddies Oceanside Tavern
Debbie Deschene
Martineau's Towing
Michael Agricola & Phillip Wood
SALVATORE'S RESTAURANT
FH CANN ASSOCIATES
Ron Tony Giordano
Kevin Drouin
Billy Evans
Heav'nly Donuts North Andover
Andrea McCann
RAG Associates
Steve Zanni
Joe Viel
Rt. 110 Convenience Store
Hasmukh Vora
Rick Beshara
Constable Ron Bertheim
Doug Seaman
Side by Side Post Partum Care
Borrelli's Deli
Par 28
Time Out Sports Bar
Essex County Sheriff
Kevin Coppinger

THANK YOU TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

DAN COADY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
BRIGID GAFFNEY DONORS

Ken DeLuca
Ryan Foisy
Danielle Huberdeau
Marcie Marie
Edward Johnson
John Conides
Aimee Sullivan
Katie Kearney
Gayle Linton
Chris Nicole Gallant
Nicholas Morris
Heidi Riley
Greg Morris
Christi Rivett
Lisa Farragher
Theresa Wood
Eddie Miller
Eleonora Iuvara
Sharon Hansen
Katie Dauphinais
Laurie Melanson
Tatum O'Sullivan
Tommy McEvoy
Jeff Moreau
Tim True
Al Apperti
Christina Alefantis
Mike Mammola

WINSTON SAYS!

Now THAT was a BASH!!!

Sponsored by: THE DAILY DOSE CAFE at PENTUCKET MEDICAL IN LAWRENCE * 978-557-8601

Sherri Conrad
Post Members of North Andover VFW
Mark DiSalvo
Kristen Sullivan
Kerrie Bushnel
Stephanie Nadeau
Joe Finn
Gayle Linton
Emanouil
Gina Ginagregorio
North Andover VFW
Sargent Improvement Club
TJ's Heavy Hauling LLC
Greg Gilligan
Patrick Ord
Mike Cyr
David Maginnis
Andrew Sullivan
Feast of the Three Saints
St. Alfio Society
David Lemay
Ian Elliott
Marlene Cote
Ross Blacker
Kevin Fitzgibbons
Bery Keleher
Anonymous
Amy Hannay
Maureen Doherty
Kristen Watson
CRL Landscaping
Keith Seguin
Gary Kalip
Anonymous
Matt Seed
Helga Wormald London
Savoia Restoration
Beth Burm
Elizabeth Haney
Larry Savoia
Carrie Richards
Connie Francisco
Christine Chenard
Sargent Improveent Club
Eileen Douglas
Kevin Drouin
Joe Mikals
Anonymous
Al Veilleux
Anonymous
Kathleen Gravel
Nicole Lemay
Mike Memmola
Debra Lemay

NEXT PAGE

Silvana Sanchez
Ashley Rumsey
Sarah Catalano
Nicole Labelle
Kimberly Boutin
Nicole Lemay
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Brian McGregor
Joanne McNulty
Adrian Santana/Santana AutoRepair
Brienne Yurrita
Anonymous
Desiree Wickham
Kimberly Brown
Mike Hayes
Anonymous
Richard Merrill
Krista Morton
Tara Krch
Kimberly Provencal
Karen Toto
Bob Sheehan
Kimberly Provencal
Greg Morris
Brendt Rourke
Kevin Farragher
Charles & Sharleen Sullivan
Dan Morgan & Agnes O'Brien

EDMUND LO SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION DONORS
(Scholarship winner will be chosen in May by the Lo Family in Salem, NH)

Carrie Weiland - Franz Acres
Krystal Beauregard
Dave Lacroix
Paula Ming Todd
Carole Morin
Edna Leach
Bella Perotta
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Jay Croteau

EUGENE SMITH /JOHN RATKA SCHOLARSHIP FOR LAWRENCE HIGH JrROTC COMMANDER EILEEN SUAREZ DONORS

Arisleidy Alejo
Arlene Charest
Hoppy Curren - Lawrence Vietnam Veterans Association
Denise Peasley
Lindsay Leigh Belloli
John Ratka Memorial Scholarship
Luis Robles
Christine Bousquet
Gary Bernard
Lllia Castellanos
Mike Agricola
Kathleen Lambroukos
Robert Thomson
Lori Donahue
Mark Rivera
Martin Cardozza
Yari Dubon
Jeff Moreau
Martin Cardozza
Lawrence Firefighters Local 146
Al Apperti
Kimberly A DiGaetano
Nicholas Caruso
Eugene Smith
Francisco Paulino
Atty Eric Salach
Yesenia Pepen
Lynn Parino
Gary Bernard
Pavel Payano
Justin Ames
F.H. Cann
Brianna Tirone
Lawrence Lions Club
Sheriff Coppinger
Peter Rayno
Atrie T Demoulas Foundation
Will Mazola
Gino Barone
New England Training Center
Matt McLennan
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Jim B
Celina Reyes

DAN STRANGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR HAVERHILL HIGH SCHOOL LIZTH DEFERIA DONORS

Ken DeLuca
Nnew Englad PBA-Jerry Flynn
Jim Riter
Edward Johnson
Ryan Hamilton
Dee O'Niel
Gary Steele
Cynthia Manning
Haverhill Chief Pistone
Jasmine Varona
Corey O'Neil
Mark Rivera
Renee Jolliffe Connolly
Dave O'Niel
David Modolo
Dave-ID Consoli
Citizens for Jim Fiorentini
Neil Miller
Dr. Sam Amari
Jeff Wallens
Kevin Strange
Patrick Ord
Anonymous
Cynthia Buckley
Kendra Zebelski
Don Thompson
Patrick L.
Valley Patriot
Hanna Elkhoury
Philippe Thibault
Sheri Plunkett
Cindi Buckley
Ken DeLuca
Alexis Kelly
Committee to Elect Dee Jacobs O'Neil
Councilor Sullivan
Kevin Strange
Boxford Chief Riter
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care

GR. LAWRENCE TECH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ARIANNA VALERIO DONORS

Wanda Gomez
Anonymous
AFC
Ryan Hamilton
Laiza St Onge
Fred carberry
Richard Savoy
Alex Frazier
Arielle Cavaretta
Jackie Molinari
Frank Quintanna
Janet McLennan
Alexis Holmes-Kelly
Krisztina Cullen
Arlene Charest
Ron Marsan
Marsan & Son Construction
Laborer's Unioin Local 175
Lee Balcom
Connie Carroll
Feast of the 3 Saints/St. Alfio Society
Joey Viel - Mill City Management
Vivian Marmol
Tommy Swabrick
Beth Rizkallah
Francisco Surillo
Jess Finocchiaro
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Kathleen Rupkey
Laurey Bistany
Shawn Ferris
Mark Laplant
Leo Lamontagne

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

Are Judges in MA Above the Law?

How Come Nobody investigates Corrupt Judges Anymore?

Atty. Gary Dolan
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Question: What do you call a dishonest lawyer who's too lazy to chase an ambulance? Answer: A judge.

Every day I watch people on television complaining about crime, open borders, and the Biden family's shady business dealings. However, I see the government and most of the media aim their attention at Donald Trump for paying hush money, attempting to overthrow the government, and trying to cancel Christmas. Invariably someone always says that nobody, including a former president, is above the law. Is that really true?

Rosie Ruiz was the first female (biological) runner who crossed the finish line at the 1980 Boston Marathon. But did she win? It was later found out that Ruiz had jumped into the race about a mile before the finish line ahead of the actual woman's division leader, Jacqueline Gareau. It was also discovered that she had taken the subway during part of the New York Marathon to achieve a qualifying time for the Boston Marathon.

It took the Boston Athletic Association only eight days to discover Ruiz' deception and strip her of the title and award it to Gareau. The BAA set up a mock finish line at the 1981 Marathon and had Gareau break the tape to give her back a little of the glory that she had worked so hard for and what had been stolen from her. That's at least a gallant attempt at justice.

Lance Armstrong won a record seven Tour De France bicycle races. Or did he? The Sunday Times in the UK published a story that Armstrong was using performance enhancing drugs. Armstrong sued the paper for one million pounds and settled for three hundred thousand in 2006. When it was discovered that Armstrong was juicing, the sports columnist who wrote the story sued Armstrong and settled for an undisclosed amount in 2012. That's some justice, but the damage to the writer's reputation had already been done.

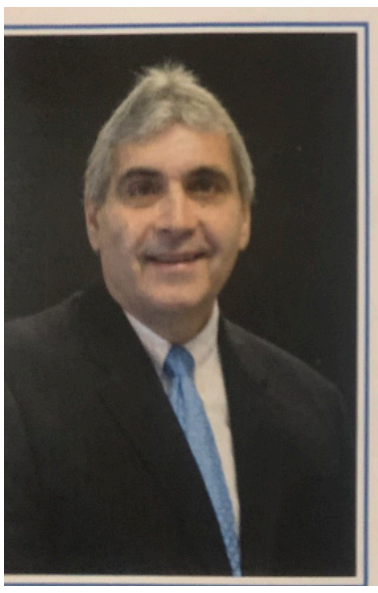
I became an honest attorney (oxymoron) in October 2010 and have spent most of my time since then trying to prove that cases in this state are being fixed by dishonest lawyers and corrupt judges. I have specifically accused the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court of allowing lower court judges to get away with this. Where does one present evidence of judicial corruption and get justice?

I've never been given a hearing to present any evidence of the corruption since I began this crusade over eight years ago. I was ordered to pay $18k in attorney fees for making these allegations. The SJC ordered the Board of Bar Overseers to begin a secret investigation of me in December of 2019. I was formally charged in June of 2023 with making false statements against numerous lawyers and judges operating in this state. I've already stood trial for three days at the BBO headquarters in Boston and scheduled for another four in April.

I tried to obtain general public information on how the state court system operates on March 18 to make my defense at the BBO's show trial. I was thrown out of the Newburyport Superior Courthouse for asking too many questions. I was arrested for trespassing by the Massachusetts State Police the next day when I tried to get back into the courthouse to finish my investigation. I spent most of the day in the state police and district court lockups before being arraigned and released on my own recognizance.

I've been ordered to stay away from the Lawrence, Salem, and Newburyport courthouses pending the outcome of the trespassing charge against me. This bars me from getting the information I need to defend myself at the BBO's trial. What's happening here is not supposed to happen outside of a third world banana republic. In this country everyone is Constitutionally guaranteed due process in the 'halls of justice' because no one is above the law. To paraphrase Howie Carr; 'the only justice you might get is not in a courtroom but out in the halls and 2% of the judges in this state are trying to give the other 98% a good name'.

Obviously, judges are above the law until they get caught AND tried in the court of public opinion. Otherwise, any corruption in a judicial system will continue to spread and grow like a malignant cancer. Apathy is a crooked judge's best friend. Please help me expose this disease by logging on to massbbo.org on the morning of April 5, click on View Calendar, and then my name for a livestream to my professional flogging. Or come to the Newburyport District court at 8:30 and watch me fight a bogus trespass charge. Bear witness to the evidence I have to prove my allegations or watch the SJC finally silence me once and for all. ◊



Mike Sullivan
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Cell: 978-204-2758
Email: sull33@aol.com

kw GATEWAY REALTY KELLERWILLIAMS.
Luis Roman
REALTOR®

C: (978) 930-9221
E: Luis.Roman@kw.com
O: (603) 912-5470 ex 165
www.LuisRomanRealtor.com
KELLER WILLIAMS® GATEWAY REALTY
130 Main St #105 Salem, NH 03079
Each office is independently owned and operated
Luis Roman Realtor®

Michael A. Colizzi: President
217 Merrimack St. Methuen, MA 01844 Phone: (978) 674-7035
Fax: (978) 674-7037
Colizzimemorials@comcast.net
www.colizzimemorials.com
COLIZZI MEMORIALS

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP
AFFORDABLE PRICES
MONUMENT SALES
CEMETERY LETTERING
BRONZE MARKERS
CIVIC MEMORIALS
MAUSOLEUMS
COLUMBARIUMS
MONUMENT CLEANING

Merrimack Valley's Premier Memorial Provider *
Independently owned and operated. Not affiliated with any other corporation

Paul Lambert, Esq.
(978) 609-6420

Darlene M. Randone, Esq.
978-621-1400
Lambert Randone, P.C.
401 Andover Street
(Route 125) Suite 11
North Andover MA 01845
WWW.LAMBERTRANDONE.COM

HOME | AUTO | COMMERCIAL | LIFE
PRIME INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
See What PRIME Can Do For You
978.685.9999
The Right Coverage. The Right Price. The Right Value.
www.PrimeHomeandAuto.com
Quotes@PrimeHomeandAuto.com
401 Andover Street - Suite 201A, North Andover, MA 01845

Law Office of Douglas M. Mercurio, P.C.
EXPERIENCE
INTEGRITY
SERVICE
978.276.3100
MecurioLaw.com | Doug@MercurioLaw.com
Representing buyers, sellers, lenders and investors in residential and commercial real estate transactions.
280 Main Street - Suite 104, North Reading, MA 01864

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
zannipescelaw.com
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY
www.zannipescelaw.com
Free Consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishioners

Ron Marsan & Son
Ron: (978) 815-6935 Jon: (978) 764-2945
General Contractors
RonMarsanAndSon@Yahoo.com

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT www.w3on.com
LEAD GENERATION 978.616.w3on (9366)
STRATEGY & GROWTH patriot@w3on.com
ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION
W3ON.COM

Northern Process Servers
Serving all Civil Process
Ronald Bertheim
Bonded Constable
Notary
252B Pleasant St.
Methuen, MA 01844
Tel 978-685-0093
Fax 978-689-3377
northernprocess@gmail.com

American Training, Inc.
Bringing Out the Best in Everyone We Touch, Since 1979
Because Every Life Matters!
"American Training is a leader in delivering premier, award-winning workforce development, day habilitation, work and residential programs."
-Thomas M. Connors, President and CEO
AMERICAN TRAINING
"American Training has developed an innovative and creative mission statement concept titled **WOW! Magic**. That inspires Colleagues, volunteers, and service users of the organization to experience exceptional outcomes"
-CARF International
WOW MAGIC
WWW.AMERICANTRAININGINC.COM
Become a Part of the **WOW! Magic** Today!

WHAT A YEAR WE HAD IN 2023!

HONORING OUR LOCAL HEROES

Since 1970 the (then) Exchange Club of Lawrence, now the Exchange Club of Lawrence and the Andovers, has honored first responders. They are our local Heroes.

Starting with Police Officer of the Year in Lawrence, now, Police, Fire and EMS/EMTs of the Year, Exchange has highlighted the best of the best as both a way to say "Thanks!" and to bring deserved attention to the remarkable professionals who toil for our protection and safety 24 hours each day, 365 days each year.

Every year their dedication, heroism, training, and excellence is showcased at this event.

Over the past FIFTY-FOUR YEARS, all SEVEN departments who serve us have faced very difficult conditions, risks and unusual demands on their time, patience and safety.

We cannot thank them, all, adequately.

Hilton-DoubleTree
Andover - 6PM
Tuesday, March 19th

EVENT SPONSORS
WIN WASTE INNOVATIONS
FHC F.H. CANN & ASSOCIATES

The Exchange Club of Lawrence and the Andovers
30 Mass. Avenue, No. Andover, MA Rory Blum, President

Property Sales, Foreclosures for Feb., 2024 in Andover, Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover. (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, price, address.)

Northern Essex Registry of Deeds

M. Paul Iannuccillo, Register

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

ANDOVER

Danyang Zhao , Anna Paglia & John G Boden, $3,200,000, 4 Willoughby Ln

MBAH LLC, Central Street LLC, $3,100,000, 65 Central St

DRR LLC, 80 Carmel Titleholder LLC, $2,500,000, 80 Carmel Rd

Yongsha Ye Tr & Oing Liu Tr & Ye Family Trust, Jianming Wei & Elsa Liu, $2,100,000, 15 Buttonwood Dr

Arthur M Brussard Tr & Arthur M Brussard Living Trust, Jonathan Dy & Francesca Chang, $1,765,000, 40 Rocky Hill Rd

Sai Builders LLC , Nicole M Pare Tr & Albert A Pare III 2008 Trust, $1,752,000, 51 County Rd

DMI Rogers Brook East LLC, Zachary Alexander Knowlton & Taylor Gordon, $1,745,000, 1 Rogers Brook East

Debra W Hartigan Tr & John J Hartigan Tr & Debra W Hartigan Revocable Trust & John J Hartigan Revocable Trust, Daniel & Abigail O'Shea, $1,700,000, 4 Endicott Rd

Anthony R & Annette L DeVito, Aaron Honig & Katherine Garlo, $1,655,000, 1 Penacook Pl

Jacob J & Milee Kim, Jagpreet Chhatwal & Tarun Gill, $1,650,000, 29 Somerset Dr

Yvon Cormier Tr & CA Investment Trust, Mary Ann Millar Tr & Frenchmans Reef Realty Trust, $1,600,000, 29 Robert Dr Unit 6-3

Mary Ellen Haczynski Tr & Lee Ann Keegan Tr & Ryan Schruender Tr & Schruender Nominee Trust , Richard Travers III, $1,440,000, 228 Andover St

Janice B Sylvester, Thayana Sylvester, $1,200,000, 96 Dascomb Rd

Patrice Palmer-Russell Tr & Paul LD Russell Jr & Patrice Palmer-Russell Family Trust, Bharat Bhushan & Shanti Devi, $1,200,000, 2 Pine Cone Ln

Alexander & Kathleen Schuck, Christopher Lee & Sco Hyun Lee, $1,140,000, 4 Nicoll Dr

Daniela Ionescu, Yongbo Wang & Man Pak, $1,060,000, 271 Salem St

Stephanie L Moore & Stephen Robert Levine Est/Stephen R Levine Est, DMD Homes LLC, $950,000, 124 Lovejoy Rd

Redcoral Investments LLC, Hetalkumari & Ashvinbhai Patel, $905,000, 10 Endfield Dr

Nicole M Garuti Tr & Demaso Family Irrevocable Trust, Eduardo Rivas & Kathryn Falcon, $815,000, 2 Mitton Cir

Judith Ferstenberg, Elizabeth A Higgins & Matthew J Sleep, $775,000, 83 Central St

Anthony Grise, Jing Zhao, $749,900, 3 Willoughby Ln

Kathryn J Brunquell & Ruth J Brunquell Est, RedCoral Investments LLC, $500,000, 7 Millstone Cir

Bonnie Estabrooks, Kailash & Akhil Chander, $485,000, 72 Millpond Unit 72

Harold & Stephanie Aznoian & Marlene E Aznoian Est, Singh Realty Group LLC, $480,000, 216 Greenwood Rd

Jill Bolduc & Brian Fosnock, Tyler G Meegan, $447,000, 13 River St Unit 1

Richard J & Mary E Auterio, Albert F & Caryl E Bonaiuto Trs & Bonaiuto 2015 Family Trust, $440,000, 2 Francis Dr Unit 203

Huy Nguyen & Yan Le, Aseem Juneja, $325,000, 11 Crescent Dr Unit 2

Christopher A & Noelle L Riley/Noelle L Dellanno, Gabriel & Cleanto Demenzes /Cleanto Menezes, $280,000, 3 Colonial Dr Unit B3-5

Jonathan Paul See, Michelle Janice Myers, $279,900, B1 Colonial Dr Unit B1-2

Lucia Fosco, Sean Richard Sturgis, $258,000, 60-2 ColonialDr Unit 60-2

Tian Gui Lin, Alex Chen & Lin Zhen, $250,000, 10 Longood Dr Unit 4

Papyrus Equities LLC, NSG Real Estate LLC, $8,250,000, 17-19 Grove St, 70-72 Union St

LAWRENCE

Marcelino Brito Tejada, Jose Joel Almonte Taveras & Rosa Paulino Puello & Jose Joel Almonte Paulino, $1,000,000, 507-509 Haverhill St

K&K Property Management Inc, Victor M Reyes Corporan & Jennifer Rodriguez Lopez, $875,000, 52-54 Olive Ave

Luis Gonzalez & Juana Soraya Soto Cordero, Miriam A Bano Huisha & Maria F Huisha Maza, $820,000, 98-100 Sunset Ave

Blue Paradise LLC, Jaime Aneuris Paredes & Angelica Ortega Flete, $780,000, 59-61 Holly St

Breslin Reyes, Claudio Marcio Ribeiro Rena, $745,000, 124-126 Newton St

Arlenny Y Gutierrez, Daniel Singh & Sarah Aladas Singh, $640,000, 21-23 Forest St

Rene & Perla Garrido, Rafael Guzman, $605,000, 34 Phillips St

Vanessa Santiago, Felix Reyes Rosario & Rewel Jovanny Polanco Ovalle, $605,000, 67 Ferry St

Lorangel M Pena Tr & L Pena Revocable Trust of 2023, Enmanuel D Uceta & Angela Maria Lantigua De Uceta & Scarlet Placeres, $600,000, 76-78 Center St

Jason McKay, Naomie &William Harris Mondesir, $600,000, 48 Dunstable St

Makeover Pros LLC, Julio E Roman & Yuverkis Arias, $562,000, 77 South Bowdoin St

Kurt E Hultstrom Tr & Hultstrom Family Realty Trust, R&M Realty II LLC, $550,000, 179 South Broadway

Essex Street Realty Property LLC, Jose Marine & Angel Marine, $550,000, 102-116 Essex St Unit B

Jowamar Co LLC/Renvo8 Homes LLC, Morenito Partners LLC, $525,000, 93-97 1/2 Common St

Evergrain Orchard LLC, Luis Eduardo Marcial Mejia & Anny Lenny Delgado, $490,000, 13 West Hawley St

Angel L Mercedes Morillo & Crystal A Mercedes, Lissette Mendoza, $400,000, 20 Cypress Ave

Ramon A & Angela M Reyes, Jae Rivas Inc, $388,000, 147 Ferry St

Jose Manuel Escobar Tr & Manuela Y Jose Realty Trust, Agnimel Ambroise Ezekiel Djedjess, $384,400, 94 Margin St

Kathleen M Hyatt & Arthur J Killourie Est, AWC Demolition & Environmental Services LLC, $365,000, 21 Greenfield St

Cast -Mart LLC, Northeast Dental Realty LLC, $360,000, 606 Andover St

Eliasser Florentino, Cristian Capellan, $330,000, 133 Burke St Unit 2

Roberto C Duran, Luis Nunez Alberto & Jeidy Fernando Leonardo Cruz, $300,000, 41 Maple St Unit 29

Caroline G & John C Allen IV, Grabiel Duran & Jean Carlos Duran, $265,000, 86 Beacon St Unit 9

Betances Real Estate LLC, Jose A Reyes & Omelia E Ramirez, $255,000, 274 East Haverhill St Unit 13

METHUEN

Residences at the Loop LLP, PP Loop Investors LLC, $58,100,000, 83 Pleasant Valley St

Ventura Homes LLC, Jireh Realty LLC, $950,000, 1-3, 5-7 Pelham St

Toll MA Land III LP, Michael J & Loriann W Herrick Trs & Herrick Family Revocable Trust, $922,171, 11 Dove Ln Unit 189

Ronald P & Colleen M Valliere, Fabiola O De Leon, $900,000, 16 Birute St

Toll MA Land III LP, Christopher & Patricia Clavin Trs & Christopher & Patricia Clavin Revocable Trust, $873,155, 3 Cardinal Rd Unit 179

Tewksbury Villiage Condominium LLC, Jan A & Elizabeth Haverhals, $815,000, 141 Harris St

Albert F Renna Jr & Toni Renna, Michael J Gifford & Jennifer A Healey, $780,000, 71 Currier St

Toll Ma Land III LP, Jeffrey M & Cara Seaman, $724,448, 9 Dove Ln Unit 188

Perrault Family LP, Kelvelyn Richard Da Silva & Deborah Matias Bravim, $720,000, 100-102 Railroad St

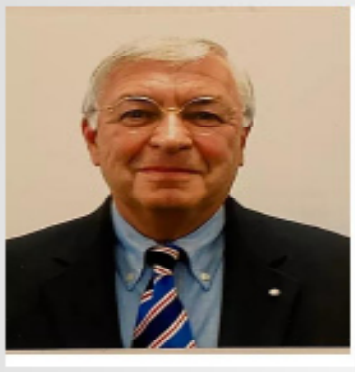
Miguel Angel Chevere Lopez & Rosa Reyes & Deivy Rodriguez , Bladimir Guerrero & Justo Rodgriguez Pitchardo, $710,000, 163-165 Oakland Ave

Silfredo Ortega, Sheila Millien, $700,000, 8 Pelham Ave

Jessie John Silvestro/Jesse John Silvestro, Lucy & Jose Sousa, $699,900, 23 Chadwick St

Jeffrey & Cara Ann Seaman, Jean F & Fabiola Falaise, $670,000, 2 Stevens St

2024 TO-DO LIST ESTATE PLANNING...
IT'S TIME



Peter J. Caruso, Sr., Esq.

We Make Estate Planning Your Easiest Task

- Free Video Conference Meetings
- Remote Document Signing
- Digital Delivery of Documents

Wills
Trusts (Simple and Complex)
Powers of Attorney
Health Care Proxies
Estate Tax Planning
Probate & Will Contests

Peter J. Caruso II, Esq.

CARUSO & CARUSO LLP
NATIONAL EXPERIENCE. HOMETOWN SERVICE.

978.475.2200 68 Main Street, Andover, MA 01810 pcarusoii@carusoandcaruso.com

NOTEBOOK: FROM 21

WHITTIER TECH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER KAUREN URENA
DONORS

Steve Spaulding
Anonymous
AFC
David Modolo
Ryan Hamilton
Lenny Mirra & Family
Dionabel Espinola
DJ Rick Bellanti
Dr. Sam Amari
Maureen Lynch
Jay Gees Ice Cream
Maureenn Lynch
Jean Albers
Steve Spaulding
Jessica Phillips
Wally Arsenault
Alan Potvin
Rich Beshara
Ira Keltz
Evan Chaisson
Amy Craft
Jennifer Incropera
Heidi Gebhardt
Tabatha Dagata
Loriann Gangi
Joe Costa
Lisa Pinard
Gary Mannion
Con & Sue Hegarty
Jackie Gallagher
Tania Ritter Telier
Dan Selenius
Edna Leach
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Gregg Fratto
Jay Croteau
Paul Tucker
Al Veileax

STUDIO 21 PODCAST CAFE -
METHUEN HIGH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER CALYSA ABLA
DONORS

Jodi Melanson
Ryan Hamilton
Anonymous
Dave Garofalo
Ryan DiZoglio
Marissa Nunes
Dan Shabilia
Leslie Melendez
Frank and Sandra Valez
Francisco Paulino
Joe Zagarella
Abdiel Perez
Janiela Bolds
Ali Sumski
Celine Izzi-Berthiaume
Jayna Zanni Pesce
Eileen Lannan
Luis Zaldua
Xan Argueta
Lynn Parino
Rebecca Iyore
Kori Bedard
Ray Smith
Stacie Cashman
Milagros Ortiz
Dan Halloran
Luis Vargas
Eunice Lopez
BASH RAFFLE
Hanna Elkhoury
Pavel Payano
Evelyn Rodriguez
Jess Finocchiaro
ANONYMOUS MATCHING DONOR
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Ryan DiZoglio
Stacie Cashman
ANONYMOUS
Anonymous

PHIL GLENDYE MEMORIAL
SCHOARSHIP WINNER
ADELINE BELLANTI DOORS

Jeffrey Mercier
Anonymous
Joey Zagaralla
Kevin Drouin
Susan Grabski
Krystina Castillo
Anonymous
Brenda Rozzi
Michael Patrick Barker
Christine Prescott
Jeffrey Mercier
Yahaira Rosa
Patricia Burke
Arlene Charest
Leadhumano LLC
Al Apperti
Kimberly A DiGaetano
Amy Porter
Jayne Beaton
Joanna Juralewicz
Janice Solomon
Cheryl White
Eric DeLeon Punishers LEMC dirty water chapter
Yesenia Pepen
Myra Ortiz
Kathie Rupkey
Paula Drelick
DJ Rick Bellanti
Brenda Michaud/Brenda Hakansson
Lawrence Lancers Booster Club
Greg Gilligan
Patrick Ord
Sharon Hansen
Jay Gees Ice Cream
Paul Lambert
Robin Gazelian
June Fisher
Mark Linton
Rick Bellanti
Shawn Ferris
Tom Swabrick
Merrimack Valley Ghost Project
Robert Connolly
Darlene Ford
Vladamir Perez
Rich Russell
Sara Bidwell
Sheila Arias
Cynthia Hefner
Con & Sue Hegarty
Brigid Gaffny
Anonymous
Tasha Ryan Dependable Kid Care
Kathleen D'Agostino

DONATING THEIR SERVICES

We want to thank the following people and businesses for donating their services to help make this event a huge success!

Mike Agricola and Phillip Wood owners of Salvatore's Restaurant who donated the entire meal for the evening! Jana Zanni Pesce, Jefte Santos, Henry's Jewelry & Awards, Rick Bellanti of Belle Air Music Productions, Photographers Angel Garcia and Rich Russell, Bob Wescott, Tom Spitilare and every one at Lawrence Cable Access, Comedien Johnny Joyce from Boston's Best Comediens, the Valley Pairot BASH Committee: Brenda Rozzi, Denise Donlan, Maria Fiato, Eric Melanson, Nancy (MAMA G) Gorman, Jill Stackelin, Sharon Marie, Kevin Drouin, Nichole Cameron, Sonia Kwon, Dan Selenius, Keith Wlodyka, Grocery Girl Stephanie Maniatakos, Bob DiMuara, and Bob Murdock.

HAVERHILL LIONS CLUB

Join us for an electrifying night of music and dancing presented by the Haverhill, MA Lions Club! Introducing our Live Band Dance Party featuring Hell on Heels.

Saturday, April 13, 2024.

Doors open at 7pm | Show kicks off at 8pm

Tickets are just $20 each.

Venue: Amvets post 147, 576 Primrose St, Haverhill, MA.

Get ready to groove to the high-energy tunes of "Hell on Heels," a dynamic cover band from southern NH known for their diverse repertoire.

Best of all, your ticket purchase supports Haverhill, MA Lions Club charities, making this event not only a fantastic night out but also a meaningful way to give back to the community.

Don't miss out on the fun!

HAVERHILL LIONS SCHOLARSHIP SCRATCH TICKET DRAWING

It's that time of the year again! Our Annual Scratch Ticket Drawing is now live, and you don't want to miss the chance to win big while supporting local Haverhill High School Scholarships!

Ticket donation: $10 for 1 ticket | $20 for 3 tickets

The Winning Ticket is to be drawn on June 11, 2024. Don't miss out on your chance to win in our annual drawing!

First Prize: 100 $5 Lottery Tickets

Second Prize: 100 $2 Lottery Tickets

Third Prize: 100 $1 Lottery Tickets

Questions can be directed to email:

LionsClubHavMA@yahoo.com.

Or simply ask one of our Lions Club Members about tickets.

Let's make a difference together!

REAL ESTATe: From 24

Erick I Hernandez-Lopez, Walter & Stephanie Lane, $670,000, 5 Walnut St

Alexander D & Brooke T Moss/ Brooke T Baldassari , Maria C Pascuccio, $665,000, 110 Rolling Ridge Ln

Robidoux Manor Realty Inc, Alison Levesque, $625,000, 4-6 High St

Mark R & Colette Siegel/Colette F Belliveau, Ethan Hayes Peck & Laura Marie Peck, $620,000, 14 Coachman Ln

Susan J Incropera, Jill Bolduc & Brian Fosnock, $605,000, 26 Sugar Hill Cir

Jimi P & Jodi A Amodio, Stephen Rae & Kara Sullivan, $600,000, 86 Lowell Blvd

Nicholas Cannarozzo Jr, Rosa E Olmo Matos De Contrer & Alejandro M Contreras, $540,000, 5 Cornish Rd

118 Butternut Lane Realty Trust & Marisa S Olson Tr, Sandra A Finnell, $506,000, 118 Butternut Ln

Joseph P Seaver & Emily R McLean, Carlos D Florencio Moncion & Delcide Medina DiFo, $490,000, 518 Prospect St

Robert C Mahoney Tr & Patricia G Mahoney Revocable Family Trust, Dylan & Adrienne Charest, $450,000, 49 Ayers Village Rd

Flip My House LLC, Sophanna K Yong, $430,000, 18 Christoper Dr Unit 39

Ann Marie O'Brien Tr & Mystic Street Realty Trust & Stephen Michael O'Brien Est, Marie Rose Previlus, $410,000, 3 Mystic St

Doris W Parthum Tr & Parthum Family Trust, Stephanie T & Denise Abbott, $390,000, 45 Washington St Unit 61

Terri L Azzi & Eric W Kelso Est, Joshua Berman & Elizabeth Tynan Smith, $365,000, 44 Elmwood Rd

Manuel R Cruz , Manuel R Cruz & Rosa D Paulino, $350,000, 7 Milk St

Richard Jean, Russell R Jean, $300,000, 945 Riverside Dr Unit 11B

Brian S Mack, Circle G LLC, $235,000, 35 Elmore St

James M Bolton Tr & Bartlett Road Realty Trust, Rkaco LLC, $220,000, Bartlett Rd

Shawn King, Daher Group Inc, $195,000, 56 Gill Ave

Candy Gomez, JLJ Family Enterprise LLC, $150,000, 50 Glen Ave

Eipi Ortega & Griselda Alvarado DeOrtega & Edelyn Ortega Alvarado, Lacey D Lorio, $15,000, 6 Adele Pl

NORTH ANDOVER

Turnpike Flagship LLC, 733 Turnpike LLC, $3,400,000, 733 Turnpike St

Turnpike Flagship LLC, 65 Flagship LLC, $2,375,000, 65 Flagship Dr

James W & Lisa M Cavallaro, Mumi Phan & Anh Duong, $2,000,000, 20 Castlemere Pl

Amy E Cianciaruso Tr & Amy E Cianciaruso Revocable Trust of 2018, Scott & Sara Ouellette, $955,000, 314 Rea St

Qing He & Yarong Young, Max Michael Enkin, $920,000, 1845 Turnpike St

margaret Ruth Rokous, Yoel Rivas & Ana Ariza, $800,000, 88 Chestnut St

Patrick E & Catherine E Coutermarsh/ Catherine E Boness, Cathryn L & William J Savage, $745,900, 113 Greene St

Philip R & Melissa D Hyde, Ernesto Adolfo Fiallos Thumann & Carmen Sugey Florentino Orellana , $685,000, 19 Peters St

U S Bank Trust Co N A Tr, Stuart Group Realty Inc, $625,100, 17-19 Annis St

Jill Ferris Tr & Jeffey Gaunt Tr & Lisa Crews Tr & 18 Elmcrest Road Realty Trust, Eriberto Garcia, $580,000, 18 Elmcrest Rd

Michael K Schwartz Tr & Marci G Cincotta Tr & Schwartz Irrevocable Trust, Sydney F Moulaison, $575,000, 18 Millpond

Claire L Flynn, Lawrence F Welch & Leslie Welch & Jesse Welch, $450,200, 180 Chickering Rd Unit 301C

Radames & Rolanne Gonzalez , Joanne Ferreer, $430,000, 622 Chickering Rd

Cleuza Granele-Davenport, 4 Fletcher Street LLC, $330,000, 6 Fernview Ave Unit 9

Antero Dasilva, LC Management LLC/CLL Property LLC, $315,900, 25 Edgelawn Ave Unit 11

Joseph J Bartolotta Jr & Joseph J Bartolotta Sr Est, Joseph G Keller Jr & David Daley, $1,345, 48 Campion Rd

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

City Chapter 2, on 112A East Haverhill Street in Lawrence, Massachusetts. The men and women at the DAV Chapter in Lawrence, are considered by most Veterans to be experts at navigating the forms and eligibility requirements needed to receive health care from the Veterans Administration. Veterans in need of assistance navigating the Veterans Administration's health care system should reach out to the nearest Disabled American Veterans Chapter and their community's Veterans Services Department.

Jeffrey Hollett said "As a VSO, we want to guide our clients to understand what is available through the Veterans Administration's healthcare to them." He further said, "we currently have a huge uptick in the VA Healthcare system expanding their support services for our Nations Veterans."

-Education: The University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Middlesex Community College, and Northern Essex Community College all have Veteran's Resources Departments. Veterans interested in attending college on the GI Bill, should reach out to the schools Veteran's Center for an appointment. The State of Massachusetts has a website at Mass.Gov, which offers information on apprenticeships for Veterans.

Apprenticeships can help Veterans, National Guard, and Reserve members enter in-demand fields and get on-the-job training in a range of industries, from building trades to technology. The GI Bill can be used for many of these trade or technical school programs. Jeff pointed out that Massachusetts Veterans Certifying Officials at the schools have been instrumental in getting Massachusetts Veterans the educational benefits they earned serving our Nation.

-Employment: On the Mass.gov website the MassHire Department of Career Services offers career programs and services to veterans to help them find jobs. The unemployment rate in Massachusetts is 2.9 percent. (February 2024) The number of applicants each year to take the State Civil Service Exams for law enforcement and firefighting careers is dropping, leaving a great opportunity for young Veterans seeking a second career. In New Hampshire, the unemployment rate is even lower, 2.6 percent (February 2024), so all Veterans will find a robust job market throughout the Merrimack Valley. Jeff cited Christopher Feugill of the MassHire Merrimack Valley Career Center and Wingate Veterans Representative Patricia Healy as "our go to for employment resources for helping our Veterans find good paying jobs."

-Fellowship: One of the most important and most overlooked needs of our Nation's Veterans and their families. In Haverhill, Massachusetts, there is a Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 29, American Legion Post 4, and American Veterans Post 147, all are focused on Veterans issues, and all are great organizations to meet at with other Veterans.. Haverhill also has a VA Clinic and two Veterans Northeast Outreach Centers. Jeff singled out WHAV radio for their work connecting Veterans with other Veterans and community resources.

A member of several Veterans Organizations and active in the Susan Komen Foundation, Charity Navigator in 2023, awarded the foundation four stars (the highest) and a 95% rating. Jeff is dedicated to helping Haverhill Veterans, he firmly pointed out, that any Veteran entering his office, will be assisted, or directed to a resource that can provide that assistance. We discussed an American Legion Post in the Merrimack Valley, that when the Post's members learned of a Veteran who was going to lose his job because his automobile was in need of repair, that Post paid a local mechanic to repair the car so that a Massachusetts Vehicle Inspection sticker could be obtained, and the Veteran could retain his job.

Jeff Hollett enlisted in the US Army shortly after his twenty-first birthday. Initial training was at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and Fort Gordan, Georgia. Jeff served for six years in South Korea. Subsequent service at Fort Detrick, Maryland, supporting the White House Communications Agency, and a follow-on tour to Okinawa, Japan.

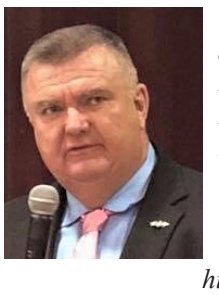
Jeff then transferred to the Massachusetts National Guard. Following the 9.11 attacks, Jeff provided security for the Wachusett Damm in Clinton, Massachusetts. In 2002 he was the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the east entrance to the 2002 Olympic Square during the Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah. This event set a Winter Olympic attendance record that still stands.

He supported relief operations during Hurricanes Irene and Sandy. Jeff deployed twice to Egypt in support of Operation Bright Star, and three times to the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his twenty-seven years of military service, he spent twelve years overseas.

He retired as a Sergeant First Class. Earning the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal.

Jeff and his wife Rosie, live in Lynn, Massachusetts, and the couple have a daughter Shannon attending college, their son Joseph is serving in the US Army Reserves and is an Iraq War Veteran. Husband, father, US Army Veteran, who is in his second career, serving his fellow Veterans, Jeff Hollett is a "Hero in our Midst"!

The Merrimack Valley American Legion Posts ask all World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, to call (603) 518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC! Veterans of all eras are asked to go to the American Legion's Web site www.legion.org, and join the American Legion, our mission is working with Congress, Veterans, and the Community, preserving our Veteran's Benefits for future generations and serving all Veterans and their families.



John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the US Navy; he earned a bachelor's in history and a master's in economics from the University of MA on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 27 years. If you know a World War II, Korean War, or Vietnam War Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com ◊

Join us to Support Veterans At our Annual Gala!

Saturday, April 27, 2024 . 5:00-11:00pm . Castleton Event Center Windham NH

Evening Includes

Light hors d'oeuvres
Sit Down Dinner
Stephanie Jasmine Band
Live & Silent Auctions
Gatsby Attire Encouraged
Lots of fun!!

HOMELAND HEROES FOUNDATION

Homeland HeroesFoundation.org

Questions Call 603-468-1275
Julie@homelandheroesfoundation.org

Purchase your tickets on line (see QR code)
or mail check to: 10 Delaware Dr. Salem NH 03079

TV TALK with BILL CUSHING

"The Gentlemen"

Bill Cushing
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

If you watched Guy Ritchie's 2019 film 'The Gentlemen' and thought you might like to see more of this world then welcome to the new eight-episode Netflix series 'The Gentlemen', inspired by the film and my recommendation for this month.

Ritchie, director of such films as 'Snatch,' 'Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels,' 'The Man from UNCLE,' as well as the two Sherlock Holmes films starring Robert Downey Jr., wrote and created this series and also handles some of the directing.

This version of 'The Gentlemen' stars Theo James as Eddie, the reluctant inheritor of his dead aristocratic father's title and country estate. After his father's death, Eddie inherits the Halstead estate which is home to a cannabis facility run by Bobby Glass' (Ray Winstone) daughter, Susie (Kaya Scodelario).

Becoming a Duke is one thing. But learning about the major cannabis growing operation concealed on his estate's grounds is quite another, and the bickering and scheming between family members and criminal factions pops off from there.

Uneasy with the criminal enterprise, Eddie initially wants out. But, when his elder brother Freddie (Daniel Ings) gets himself into deep debt, Eddie teams with Susie and learns about how the other side operates. The series focuses on the partnership between Eddie and Susie while also introducing us to the complex web of competing interests in the weed enterprise which leads to all sorts of violence and intrigue.

In addition to its absurd scenarios and abundant amounts of unpleasant characters, the style of 'The Gentlemen' adds to the shows fun.

\From the picturesque settings and the use of written on-screen text that helps the audience keep the various deals, people and schemes outlined, the show does a great job at keeping viewers' attention.

While each of the eight episodes of 'The Gentlemen' runs between 42 minutes to a little over an hour long, you never quite feel the length, and that's primarily because Ritchie's fast-paced way of telling a story is in full affect.

The performances in the series shouldn't be overlooked. Theo James does some of his best work here, playing Eddie as the straight man and the pragmatic center, but also making him flawed enough that he remains interesting, and isn't completely outdone by his more vibrant supporting characters. Giancarlo Esposito is total, malicious classiness as Stanley Johnston, an American billionaire obsessed with buying Eddie's estate. Esposito brings back the smooth-talking demeanor of his kingpin from 'Breaking Bad,' now tailored for Ritchie's brand of zany dialogue. But the true stand-out is undoubtedly Daniel Ings. His character Freddy is somehow both the most likeable and the most infuriating of them all, while also simply being a riot to watch.

Adapting a perfectly good and fun film into a successful TV series is a lot to ask, and it doesn't always work out. But I think that 'The Gentlemen" actually improved upon the original film, expanding it to tell an even better story.

Although the show has not yet been renewed, it's highly likely that a second season will be coming. If you're looking for a fun watch, turn on 'The Gentlemen' and strap in for a wild ride.

All 8 episodes of 'The Gentlemen' are available to stream on Netflix.

If you have any questions about TV, you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column. Follow me on Twitter and Instagram @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion.◊

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
zannipescelaw.com
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY

The New Covenant in My Blood!

Peter Larocque
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

God Bless and greetings my friends in the Name of Jesus Christ! I hope and pray that you all had a wonderful Resurrection Sunday, or as the world calls it, Easter. I do not like the name, Easter, I prefer Resurrection Sunday!

God, marked this day special, the day that He would raise His Son from the dead, because in the story of Noah and the Ark, after all the water returned from off the earth and the Ark rested, as it says in Genesis 8:4, "Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat." NKJV. Many years later, on this exact day and exact month, The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead took place! Only God could have orchestrated this!

Before Jesus' Death, Burial, and Resurrection, Jesus and His Disciples participated in what is affectionally called, the Last Supper, and it was during this supper Jesus instituted Holy Communion. We find this in Luke 22:19-20, "And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 20 Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you." NKJV. In this column, I would like to focus upon the cup.

Jesus specifically said that the Cup was The New Covenant. This points out to us that there was an Old Covenant that was in effect and is being replaced with a New Covenant! I have heard said and taught that a Covenant is like a Contract. This could not be further from the truth, especially today! Contracts are being broken almost daily, hence, the many lawyers we find today, they get paid to override or make changes to the details inside contracts.

But a Godly Covenant involves Blood! It is really an Exchange of Lives. We read the following in Jeremiah 31:31-34, "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah — 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." NKJV.

This New Covenant states that God will no longer deal with His people and communicate with them from the outside in but will now communicate with them from the inside out. God says He will put His laws in their mind and write them on their heart!

With this New Covenant comes a shift in education on how God deals with His people. We are now being taught by God from the inside out! We read about this in Hebrews 1:1-4, "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they." NKJV.

According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." NKJV.

As New Creations in Christ, along with the New Covenant, God is now speaking to us and teaching us by His Son who lives in us! Jesus Spoke of this in John 14:16-17, "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another helper, that he may abide with you forever 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you." NKJV. And in John 14:20, "At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you." NKJV. And in John 14:23, "Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." NKJV. And one more, John 14:26, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." NKJV.

Today we have God, Jesus and The Holy Spirit making their home in us speaking and teaching us all things and helping us remember what Jesus is teaching us!!!

This brings us back to Holy Communion where Jesus said as often as you do it, do it in remembrance of Him. Remembering Him literally means to Re-Live it! Live what? The New Covenant in Christ's Blood, Hearing and being Taught from the Inside!!!

Much Love,
Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com ◊

Salvatore's
In & Outdoor
Dining private
Events
Catering
Live Music
Live Shows
354 MERRIMACK STREET
LAWRENCE, MA
978-291-0220 X1